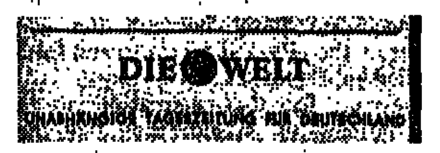
The German Tribune

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Nixon's Cambodia decision calls for cool, cool nerves



President Nixon's latest moves in Cambodia have not merely brought about a complete change in South-East Asia; they may affect the whole gamut of international affairs.

Mr Nixon has made it clear that he does not intend pulling out in the face of communist expansion.

Fundamental importance must be attached to the statement that he does not want to go down in history as the President in whose period of office the United States became a second-rate power.

It is an appeal to a tired America to remember its power and fight for its interests wherever they are in danger. It remains to be seen whether this sentiment is echoed.'

The bewildering aspect of the entire move is the suddenness with which the change came about. Since the President's Guam speech the US pull-out of South-East Asia had seemed a firm factor in world affairs.

Did Washington seriously believe that withdrawal from Vietnam might not mean the fall of all Indochina to the *Communists? Was* the domino theory really felt to be outmoded?

Did not disengagement in Indochina *appear to* be embedded in a major policy, the aim of which could be considered to be a reduction in friction with *Communist China?*

The facade of *America's Vietnam* policy evidently papered over the dilemma that faced Mr Nixon from the start. *This too is why there was never a* common denominator to his statements on Indochina and the moves undertaken.

The tone of his statements was harsh. They invariably included a warning that America would not allow itself to be humiliated in Vietnam. Only the actions seemed to be aimed at appeasement.

American observers who favoured withdrawal from Vietnam accordingly made the President out to be hinting "Watch what I do not what I say." The exact opposite proves to have been the case.

Mr Nixon's Vietnam policy has always been a *tight-rope act. He evidently hoped* that circumstances would be ideal, that the North Vietnamese would show mo*deration and common sense and the* South Vietnamese swiftly gain strength. He reckoned the course of events would allow America to disengage honourably from the South-East Asian conflict.

This expectation proved mistaken. In view of the *Cambodia crisis* both sides had to lay their cards on the table.

The Communists were induced to march on Phnom Penh while at the same time advancing in Laos. Both moves were bound to appear to be the start of a new offensive against the American expeditionary corps.

At an Indochinese summit staged by Peking the coordination of all revolutionary currents in Indochina was agreed, joint victory the goal. The future appeared to hold in store for America not a gradual reduction in US presence but an Asian Dunkirk.

In this situation the President decided on a volte-face. He had obviously listened *to his military advisers, who held out the* prospect of prompt successes if only communist depots and headquarters over the frontier in Cambodia were put out of action.

It is clear from Mr Nixon's talk of getting to the root of the matter that it is not merely a local operation but a deliberate attempt to bring about a turning-point in the entire war.

The President has staked all on one card, that of military success. He will not have forgotten that the military men's forecasts have not always been accurate in the past.

Getting to the root of the matter is evidently a question of dealing the communist forces a decisive blow. But the Communists too are banking on victory and have a great deal of prestige at stake. They have been encouraged by every American withdrawal over recent months.

North Vietnam may be militarily weakened but there is now a strong *possibility of the superpowers confronting one another in a second war in* Indochina.

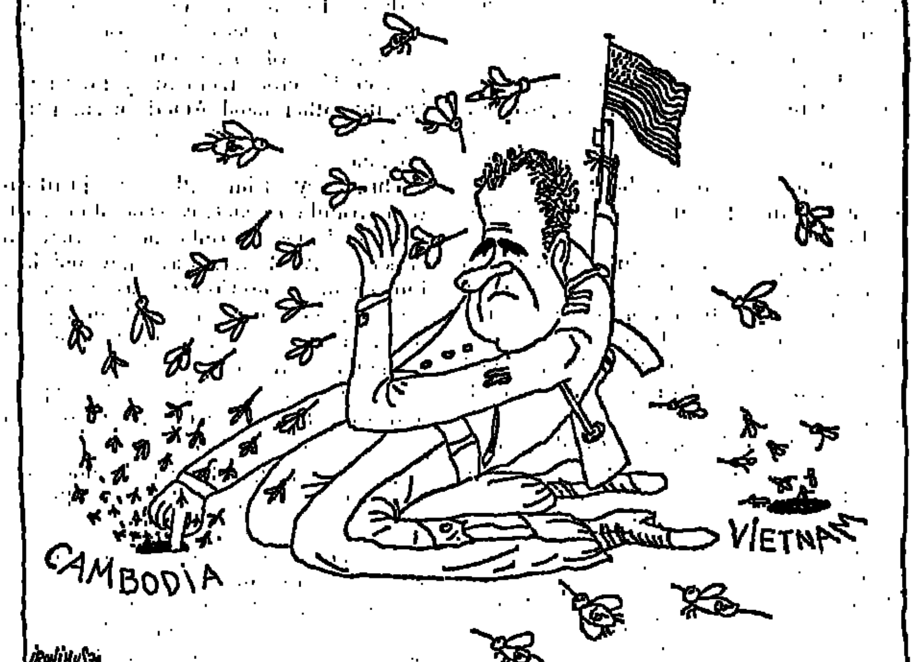
Realising as much, Mr Nixon warned that America would draw the appropriate conclusions should other governments consider their relations with the United States to be impaired.

Yet one can hardly visualise relations not deteriorating. The result could become apparent at the Salt talks in Vienna, at the Four-Power talks in Berlin or in the Middle East.

Mr Nixon assumed office with the slogan that the age of confrontation was over and the age of negotiation about to *begin. Now he too has opted for con*frontation — despite opposition at home — because he sees no alternative other *than a headlong pull-out.*

It can only be hoped that America will muster the energy and perseverance without which the new policy is doomed to failure.

Dieter Cycon
(DIE WELT, 2 May 1970)



(Cartoon: Ironimus/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

IN THIS ISSUE

America's Allies stand perplexed what to do next!

America's European allies are uneasily biding their time before passing judgment on President Nixon's Cambodia decision. They are visibly upset by the thought that a great ally that has often come to their assitance in the past may now gain the impression that it has not, perhaps, been left in the lurch but decidedly kept at arm's length by virtually all its own allies.

No one wants to offend the President but from London to Bonn and from *Brussels to Rome everyone is confused,* taken aback, perplexed.

It is a matter of course that Paris has expressed disapproval of the extension of the war to Cambodia since among America's allies France has long and determinedly advocated an end to military involvement by means of political decisions.

Everywhere the shock and anxiety Mr Nixon's about-turn to the policy line of the super-hawks and the Generals have caused in European governments have carefully been swathed in cotton wool.

Washington is unlikely to deceive itself as to the European reaction though. Secretary of State Rogers has been prov*ed right but his warnings cut no ice with* a President who was growing increasingly impatient at the lack of success of his *negotiators.*

The considerations that finally decided Mr Nixon to resort to partially military solutions have not struck European Cabinets as particularly convincing. No political groundwork was laid beforehand, sad to say.

No one on this side of the Atlantic was prepared for *this turn of events. Not even* the British Premier was informed in advance, let alone consulted. Chancellor Brandt had not an inkling of what was going on. Nato was presented with a fait accompli.

There may be a number of reasons why this had to be the case, yet whatever view is taken it is out of place and after the event pointless to attack the American government on this score.

Anxiety and annoyance remain, however. What is called for is not political cosmetics but a free exchange of rational arguments.

Care must be taken to ensure that *official American disappointment* with Europe's failure to understand does not lead to alienation within the West, *particularly should doubts as to the efficacy of the* Cambodian campaign prove justified.

Cohesion in Nato must be carefully tended right now.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 May 1970)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Mao's satellite knocks the Washington-Moscow clinch

Dong fang hong" (The East is Red) has echoed through space since 24 April, a mere two days after Lenin's centenary and a date worth remembering. Communist China is understandably jubilant about the successful launching of Mao's first sputnik; the response of the rest of the world is for the time being a mixture of anxiety and respect.

Despite the cultural revolution the Chinese have succeeded in developing a long-distance rocket capable of putting a three-and-a-half-ton satellite into orbit. They are probably already in a position – and certainly will be in the near future – to launch missiles at any target in the world.

China, a poor developing country, has managed in a mere six years to progress from a simple atom bomb via the hydrogen bomb to missile power, a process that took the highly industrialised United States and Soviet Union more than fifteen.

What will be the international political repercussions of China's swift technological development in this sector?

To begin with, it decidedly calls into question the balance of terror, the unstable nuclear stalemate between the United States and the Societ Union that is sinister but convenient for both.

In the Vienna Salt talks both the Americans and the Russians will have to pay even more attention to the inconvenient third man seated unseen at the conference table. Of this there can be no doubt whatsoever.

China's technological breakthrough has even more unpleasant consequences for Moscow than it does for Washington. Under Khrushchev the Soviet leadership went to great lengths to prevent the build-up of a Chinese nuclear and missile force. China was to become a servile ally of the Kremlin.

This was one of the main reasons for the ideological and power-political conflict between the two. The attempt was a total failure. Mao banked everything on military self-reliance and is evidently already in a position to withstand Soviet nuclear threats.

Peking's bitter accusations on the occasion of the Lenin centenary also show how irreconcilable in every respect Mao remains towards the present Kremlin leaders. On the other hand there is not the slightest sign that he intends to commit suicide by triggering off nuclear war with the Soviet Union.

The apocalyptic vision of Chinese nuclear missiles wiping out American cities overnight is altogether absurd. America will be Communist China's nuclear better for a long time to come, even though the gap will rapidly narrow.

Yet in the wake of China's successes influential politicians in the United States are already energetically advocating the development of an anti-missile system to protect US cities from the yellow peril. On the other hand American specialists are just as emphatically opposed to any such move.

This, they claim with every justification, would only increase general insecurity. The Chinese would merely view an American ABM system as a new link in a long chain of anti-Chinese moves and the crucial policy of balance and subsequent disarmament measures would be rendered even more difficult.

Existing offensive deterrent weapons aimed in China's direction are more than sufficient, specialists argue.

This line of thought makes sound sense but will it convince America's allies in Asia?

A clear answer cannot as yet be given. It could be that the Japanese will react to the development of a comprehensive ABM system in the United Stated by demanding a similar shield for their own cities.

Were America to refuse they might tend towards self-help or even a policy of neutralism, arguing that American protection is in any case unreliable and has a provocative effect.

Despite a decline in Japanese abhorrence of nuclear weapons many politicians object to claims that China is their enemy.

India may well be even less inclined than at present to sign the non-proliferation treaty but what alternative does it have? It cannot bank on a US-Soviet nuclear guarantee. Cooperation between the two superpowers so far has (yet?) to reach this stage.

The development of a missile force of India's own would undoubtedly hopelessly ruin the country's unstable economy and lead to internal chaos. The only remaining way out is to seek coexistence with China in some form or other.

No matter how uncertain on may be about China's increasing power there is no justification for making Peking out to be aggressive. Despite strong words China's actions have so far been extremely cautious.

China is irresistibly moving along the road to becoming a great power equipped with a bona fide nuclear deterrent but it still has a long way to go. What is more, it has repeatedly declared that it will never use its nuclear arms first and is prepared to disarm.

Declarations such as these should be taken seriously in future. China is out to have a say among the great powers and should no longer be denied the privilege. Disarmament conferences not attended by China could swiftly descend to the level of farce.

Siegfried Kublink

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 28 April 1970)

More trouble in the Middle East

I reared a head no less ugly than the others that have for years used this part of the world as a playground for hopeless dissension. The spectre does not yet have a name but its shadow bodes ill for the future.

It is the danger of direct confrontation between Israeli and Soviet pilots. The Israelis claim to be reliably informed that Soviet fighters over Egypt are flown by Soviet pilots.

It may be that the Kremlin wants merely to protect Soviet personnel engaged in the construction of a missile shield but this alone could mean conflict. Jerusalem has unambiguously announced for weeks that Israel will not sit back and watch the construction of Soviet missile pads in Egypt.

Prophecy is a risky business in the Middle East. The protagonists can no longer be measured by the yardstick of common sense. Common sense no longer exists in a region that is in total disequilibrium.

It is nonetheless none too foolhardy to venture the suggestion that the Soviet Union has this time climbed two rungs of the fateful ladder of escalation. The Kremlin has been first to breathe life into the spectre of confrontation by daring to intervene personally and directly in the wrangling of smaller powers.

Soviet-piloted fighters, maybe even Mig 23s, against Israel unquestionably represent the most serious development since the end of the Six-Day War in June 1967. The Soviet Union has at long last cast off its sheep's clothing to reveal the wolf underneath.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 30 April 1970)

A third Four-Pow[er] meeting on Berli[n] arranged

Conducted in complete secrecy second round of Four-Power tal[ks] Berlin ended on 28 April with the [an]nouncement that a third meeting been arranged. It would be absur[d to] deduce from this solitary news whether the talks have been a success failure so far.

It must not, however, be forgotten at the first summit the Western announced the temporary closure of Allied Travel Office to which GDR [citi]zens have in the past had to apply visas for Nato countries.

The Western Powers took this s[tep in] the expectation of counter-conce[ssions] by the East on the subject unde[r dis]cussion. The items on the agenda which the West attaches particular [im]portance are travel between the t[wo] halves of the city and access to and fr[om] the Federal Republic.

The mere fact that negotiations a[re to] be continued is an indication that Soviet attitude cannot be negative matter how many times ADN, the Berlin press agency, stresses tha[t the] Allied ambassadors are merely confi[ning] "their exchange of views on West Be[rlin]".

Propaganda as transparent as t[his is] intended to put a damper on hop[es at] home on the one hand and to s[ow] confusion among Western public op[inion]. This approach is nothing new and one of these days unmask itself for [what] it is. It is far more important th[at the] people of Berlin are not made ne[rvous] and impatient.

For the Allies it is not merely an [issue] of our well-being but also one of de[fending] interests of their own – interests neither the one nor the other will [sacri]fice lightly. This is our opportunity.

No matter how much the GDR pr[otests,] the Soviet Union cannot and will [not] break faith by unilaterally declaring [the] September 1944 agreement to be null [and] void. This agreement, to which the S[oviet] Union was a party, forms the bas[is of] joint Allied occupation of Berlin.

The Western Powers, for their part, [will] not be able to countenance a chan[ge in] the status of Berlin because their [rights] would be bound to be restricted – [rights] that are felt to be inalienable.

Viewed from this angle there i[s no] reason for pessimism even though [the] outcome is not yet in sight.

(Telegraf, 29 April [1970])

Walter Scheel speaks to Opposition leaders in Madrid

During his visit to Madrid Foreign Minister Walter Scheel took the liberty of making a gesture that is unusual to say the least in contacts between governments, particularly between the democratic Federal government and the authoritarian Spanish government. He expressed a desire to talk with members of the Opposition in Madrid.

In official circles an extremely dim view was taken of this wish and many people regarded it as intervention in Spanish home affairs. But a man with a 200-million-Mark cheque in his pocket can no doubt afford to make unusual requests all over the world.

So it was that with the express approval of the Spanish government Walter Scheel was able to talk with four outstanding representatives of the Opposition, men whose vision of a happy future for Spain does not include wholesale reliance on the Franco regime.

The first of the four, Count Arielza de Motrico, Spanish ambassador in Paris a few years ago, would like Spain to be a constitutional monarchy on the English pattern, though of course Roman Catholic.

A similar view is taken by the second opposite number, Basque aristocrat Satrustegui, who was exiled to an isolated Canary island about five years ago for expressing his point of view too vociferously and emphatically at a private gathering.

The third man to engage in unofficial discussion with Foreign Minister Scheel was Don Joaquin Ruiz Jimenez, Franco's ex-Minister of Education. He is described as a Christian democrat but it would no doubt be better to talk of a Roman Catholic democrat, since in Spain denomination can easily outstrip democracy.

The fourth representative of the so-called Opposition to meet the Foreign Minister was socialist university professor Tierno-Galvan. Five years ago he and four other professors at the University of Madrid were suspended in connection with university unrest.

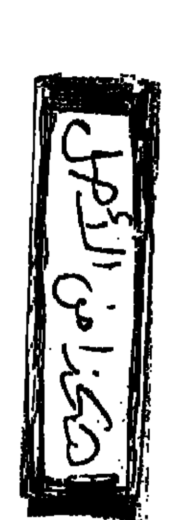
As his present significance amounts merely to the reputation of being a socialist rather than activity as one he is allowed to move about without let or hindrance.

Following the talks a number of people were already thinking in terms of a democratic dawn but not all of the four men can be said to appear the stuff of democracy.

Scheel was unable to make contact with representatives of the silent Opposition, the broad mass of Spanish workers. Not even a far more generous loan would have bought him this privilege.

Karl Tichmann

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 27 April 1970)



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HOME AFFAIRS

Government's period of grace is coming to an end

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Are appearances deceptive or are the timbers of the new government beginning to creak? Are the Social Democrats (SPD) showing signs of nervousness?

One indication to this effect is Herbert Wehner's storming and almost inexplicable intrusion into the most recent Bundestag debate.

Many people believed at first that the most skilful tactican in Federal Republic politics since Konrad Adenauer had lost his head. For twenty years he had been boxing party members round the ears driving them to the seat of power and now his efforts, it seemed, were showing their effects.

Yet everyone who knows Herbert Wehner well can offer reassurances that he is today no more the man who simply roars and cusses than he ever was.

He knows what he is doing and is not afraid to pursue what he knows are the right tactics even if these tactics cast a dubious light on him. He can see in sharper focus than many of his colleagues how slim the government majority is and how susceptible the smaller coalition partner is.

"The breathing space that every new government can allow itself is coming to an end. Provincial assembly elections are just around the corner and these can be viewed as a kind of inter-election.

Circumspection is called for. The idea is to goad the Opposition for as long as possible so that it is they who crack and allow themselves to be driven into the corner in which the SPD has stood so long, where they are forced to be the eternal 'denier' the party of the dismal Jimmies.

It only takes a quick glance at public opinion polls to see that Wehner's tactics are exaggerated and the signs of nervousness in the Social Democratic leadership are to say the least premature.

Month for month Willy Brandt is gaining in popularity. The so-called new East Bloc policy is approved by two-thirds of people in this country. If elections were held today, public opinion pollsters assure us, one person in two would vote for the SPD. The Free Democrats, (FDP) would remain in the Bundestag and the Christian Democratic and Christian Social Union parties (CDZ/CSU) would be put even further in the shade.

What more does the new government want? It is precisely this cult of public opinion polls that covers up internal doubts and formerly plunged Kurt Georg Kiesinger and the CDU/CSU into the depths.

A comparison of the well-intentioned figures published by researchers and the hard statistics of the most recent regional and local elections shows that the CDU is coming off better and the SPD is coming off worse than expected.

In North Rhine-Westphalia, where the most important battle will be fought on 7 June, the Union parties are acting more intelligently than in other places.

Certainly the Party is acting more intelligently than the CSU advises it to do. It has selected its star candidates carefully and formed a new team.

It is no longer making great capital of the "sellout of German interests" slogan but is attacking the SPD on the field of domestic and economic policies.

In domestic and economic policies the new government has, without doubt, fallen foul of errors and omissions which justify slight qualms of anxiety.

This is due largely to two lively groups within the Social Democratic Party that live in intimate enmity. On the one hand there are the clever managerial types of the 'middle generation' who are so proud of their sense of the realities and of power.

Horst Ehmke is a glowing example. The horrific way in which he and others hold the regulator of power has only damaged his party.

If his politics on a personal level are today justified by his claiming that the CDU/CSU spent two decades pumping the government machinery full of its people, he is overlooking the fact that we did not expect the same from the new government but something better.

A second group is the young and old Leftists, the so-called idealists, who believe that the whole of society must be shaken up from tip to toe. The vaguer such plans are the more dangerous is their psychological effect.

It is precisely for left-wing popular parties that a danger exists when the middle classes fear for their income and their little bit of capital accumulation, their independence and the possibility of an inheritance.

All this could be ignored if it were just a question of domestic reforms which could be assured of more widespread general agreement.

It is precisely this that the managerial types and the idealists prevented in the early days of March this year when they threw out Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller's economic policy plans.

At the time it was not simply a question of a severe economic policy mistake, as everyone has since realised day by day when going shopping.

The whole of the Federal Republic domestic policy programme was blocked. The stage has now been reached where public spending must exercise frugality in order to bring about savings where the public, the general economy and consumers are going on a spending spree.

Budget limitations are the unavoidable outcome of this situation. But it cannot be denied that reforms are money-consuming.

This applies in the case of adjustable retirement ages, capital wealth accumulation promotional schemes, construction of new roads and autobahns, the fight against pollution of the air and filling water supplies with filth, and last but by no means least for imaginative improvements to this country's education and further education programmes.

Karl Schiller has pointed out in good time to his colleagues that they are in a process of making all improvements in structural policies well-nigh impossible. Only Helmut Schmidt and Georg Leber have cottoned on.

The majority of Cabinet members and SPD members in the Bundestag, have however, faced up to the fact that either the desire to carry out the reforms must be checked in order to stabilise prices or they must press on with these reforms and run the risk of overheating the economy and price tendencies even further.

Neither alternative makes the SPD's chances in elections look too rosy. They are still counting on the fact that the Chancellor is popular and the sins of omission in the past twenty years have not yet been forgotten. The CDU/CSU has not yet been shaken up and renewed sufficiently to make it attractive to the greater number of voters. But if the SPD nervousness were developed further until it became self-criticism this would be a good thing.

Rainer Tross

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 25 April 1970)

Spotlight on proposed domestic reforms

In the near future the Bundestag and Bundesrat (Upper House) will have to deal with a number of important suggestions made by the Federal government for significant domestic policy reforms.

Minister of the Interior Hans Dietrich Genscher has announced that shortly a draft bill will be presented to the Bundestag on environmental protection.

New legislation will be proposed to transfer conflicting legislation to the central government and civil service pay will come under the aegis of the central government alone.

These moves have made it singularly clear that the time has come for reforms in domestic policy.

The new proposals include at the present moment four headlings for domestic reform.

1. Minister Genscher has moved to have Basic Law, formulated in 1949, brought up to the different situation obtaining in 1970 and made suitable for the coming decades. This includes a new division of roles for the central government and the state government. This also includes a reduction in the number of Federal states from the present eleven to five, six or seven. This is essential in order to ensure a balanced development of the Federal Republic.

2. Efforts to enable people in this country to accumulate capital wealth have assumed a new importance. The government will not leave government calls on this score unanswered. Apart from plans to double the present 312-Mark savings maximum other forms of capital accumulation are being discussed at the present moment. The Social Democrats have already put forward their suggestions and the Free Democrats put up what was called the Scheel Plan for discussion a year ago.

3. Tax reform plans are being pushed through by Finance Minister Alex Möller. These plans are intended to introduce a completely new tax system within three years including a far-reaching rationalisation of indirect taxes. On the other hand these plans will make the particular aspects of a Social Democratic social structure clearer, particularly with regard to death duties and income tax.

4. Educational reform. Only recently did prime ministers of Federal states inform the Chancellor that they were prepared to cooperate on an overall plan for education proposed by the government, on a national education budget and perhaps on plans for education tax. This problem has have shown that by 1980 or 1985 the sum to be raised for educational requirements will not be 50,000 million Marks but twice that amount.

The central government already has a large say in universities' planning and it is significant that the Federal states are prepared to accept the fact that Bonn will have a larger say on this matter. Hans Leussink, the Education Minister, proposed a 14-point plan which will pass into the statute book in the summer in a modified form.

These four headings will be used for future social aims that will be applicable to this country.

Other problems and questions of detail probably in the economic and agricultural sphere, for instance, will complete the picture.

This programme of domestic reform will be led by a continuous reform to the social welfare system.

If the government succeeds in pushing through these plans in which the Opposition have shown a marked constructive interest and even if they are only semi-unscathed by amendments the state of the nation in 1973 will be appreciably different.

Eduard Mergenthin

(Kieler Nachrichten, 25 April 1970)

Genscher – a strong man in vital Interior Ministry

Hans Dietrich Genscher, the Minister of the Interior, has broken with a tradition of his Ministry.

Up until now ministers of the Interior have as a general rule been pillars of the Establishment, defenders of a conservative order of things, protectors of the status quo.

Their prime duty was understood to be protection of society and champions of order in that society.

Genscher too is the Minister responsible for this country's police force – he considers improvements to the Federal Republic Criminal Investigation Bureau one of his first and foremost duties. But at the same time he is the Minister for domestic *reform*.

His predecessor, Ernst Benda, was a would-be reformer as well, but his position in the Cabinet was too uninfluential and his powers of decision-making too limited.

Under Genscher it is a different kettle of fish. Politically he is one of the most important men in the Cabinet and he has extended the scope of his office from the word go. During Cabinet reform at the beginning of this legislative period he moulde the Interior Ministry into an office dealing with the tasks of the future.

His Ministry swallowed up the responsibility for clean air, water and noise abatement presiously controlled by the Health Ministry. Now Genscher is out to make nature conservation part of his Ministry's responsibilities. In this lie the rudiments of the most important task for the future, protecting our environment from the dangers of civilisation.

Up until now the government's say in this matter has been wanting. Genscher plans to change that. Only when he has done so can the government weigh in with plans and schemes. Not content with that Genscher hopes to introduce uniform regulations for civil service salaries.

The central government already has a skeleton authority over this but various state laws and Hesse's law for judges' salaries remain exceptions to the general rule.

Complaints brought before the Federal Constitutional Court are of little help. For this reason the Minister of the Interior has called for an amendment to Basic Law on this matter as well as on environmental conservation so that the central government will be able to reconcile conflicting legislation.

This is Genscher's immediate programme for the future. In addition to this he hopes to set up a commission to investigate future developments in the Federal state structure. Another commission will prepare the 'New Look' for the Federal states.

This programme is remarkable in many aspects. First of all it is a clear indication that the old rule about the Ministry of the Interior being apolitical is passé. The Ministry was always powerful but under Genscher it has become even stronger and moreover the hub of domestic reforms.

(DIE ZEIT, 24 April 1970)

■ INTER GERMAN RELATIONS

More caution needed over East Bloc policy

BRANDT SEEKS SUPPORT FOR SENSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Hoar-frost has started to attack the blossoming dreams of the Social Democrats' German and Eastern European policy. Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt did not seem to have realised before his Washington visit that there cannot be any agreement between the Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) that ignores the still effective rights and duties of the four occupying powers.

There have been fears in Bonn for some time that the three Western powers could regard the recognition of the existence of two German States as a contravention of the German Treaty. This formula of Brandt's was indeed included in the government policy statement without consulting Washington, London or Paris.

Henry Kissinger, President Richard Nixon's adviser on foreign policy, has now pointed out to this country's delegation that the Federal Republic cannot open diplomatic relations with the GDR or recognise the Oder-Neisse line without the agreement of its allies.

The government could have avoided this reproach from the Americans by preparing its German and Eastern European policy better. When all is said and done it is no secret that the sovereignty of the Federal Republic is limited when it comes to the settlement of inter-German relations.

But this state of affairs was obviously forgotten when the positive response from the East after Brandt formed his government gave rise to the hope that favourable agreements could be reached with Moscow, Warsaw and East Berlin.

There was no overall conception for possibilities in German and East European policy as the government had wanted first of all to concentrate on domestic reforms. It then discovered that there was a lack of money and that the Free Democrats had to reject many plans in deference to the solid body of voters they still retained.

Talks with Moscow and Warsaw did not have a very promising beginning. State Secretary Conrad Ahlers therefore sent the Chancellor a memorandum for the preparation of the report on the State of the Nation, warning him against starting talks with East Berlin. This was after GDR State Council Chairman Walter Ulbricht's letter to Federal President Gustav Heinemann.

Ahlers managed to get the wording of the report changed so that Brandt gave a cautious judgment on the prospects of his German and Eastern European policy.

But when GDR Prime Minister Willi Stoph proposed talks at the highest level the leader of the Social Democrats in the Bundestag, Herbert Wehner pushed through his view that this offer should be accepted.

Instead of following Wehner's advice and telephoning an immediate acceptance of Stoph's offer to avoid any dispute about how he should travel to the conference, Brandt sent Ulrich Sahm to East Berlin for preliminary talks. Here it turned out that Sahm and those accompanying him were not tactically equal to their communist partners. This resulted in a compromise on the venue of the talks as well as vague agreements on technical details. This was why the Chancellor was suddenly confronted with a guard of honour and a ceremony usual only at state visits to the GDR when he visited

Was the delegation from Bonn caught unawares? Or had it neglected to find out about what ceremonies are usual? It is still a puzzle how Chancellor Brandt managed to get involved with the People's Army. Was he handed over to them as soon as he arrived at Erfurt station? And by whom? There are those who object that these details are unimportant and should not be too highly rated at the first meeting of the Federal Chancellor with the GDR Prime Minister.

But these people must not forget that they have always played an important role within the communist sphere of power and that they could be symptomatic for the treatment of other questions by the Federal government.

On the Saturday before his trip to Erfurt Brandt brusquely refused to go to Buchenwald. It is still not known what made him change his mind. Snap decisions were obviously made at the Chancellor's Office among other places and their significance is still not completely clear today.

The first trip of State Secretary Egon Bahr to Moscow seems to have been a momentary inspiration and not the result of mature reflection. At any rate the Foreign Office was not informed of Bahr's journey until his flight was booked.

Under conditions such as these it is little wonder that there is an increase of demands within the Federal government to put an end to improvisation in German and Eastern European policy.

Now that Washington has reiterated its rights, now that East Berlin has been attacking the government, especially Herbert Wehner, for the past few weeks and the Free Democrats are gradually becoming more aloof, even the Chancellor's Office is no longer ruling out a failure of Bonn's German and Eastern European policy.

But at Kassel Chancellor Brandt wants to try to barter with Stoph for the establishment of a commission for talks on humanitarian easements by suggesting the simultaneous entry of the Federal Republic and the GDR into international organisations and later, the United Nations.

Brandt was given the green light for this in Washington as the American deputy Foreign Minister Richardson has now confirmed.

The increasing sharpness of attacks by the East Berlin press indicates that East Berlin will not be satisfied with this de facto recognition. Bonn's readiness to allow Stoph to address a communist in Kassel if he wants will change no here. And it would be politically friv to offer to set up a commission to dis East Berlin's claim to 100,000 mi Marks.

Until the Federal government m demands of its own such as the res tion of the freedoms for all Germa will be remaining on the defensive. Free Democrats and some Social De crat ministers are insisting that the "humanitarian easements" be made concrete.

Instead of annulling the "Hand Law" without gaining anything in change, Bonn should first have dema that East Berlin should drop its claim the two million citizens of the Fed Republic (and their children) who the GDR after 1949. This group incl for instance Home Affairs Minister Dietrich Genscher as well as his daugh who was born in the Federal Republic!

On his visit to Erfurt Brandt could h been arrested for incitement to boyco But nobody in Bonn demanded a re of the GDR law in question befor journey. East Berlin is however pre noisely for the abolition of the Fed Republic's isolation law before St travels to Kassel!

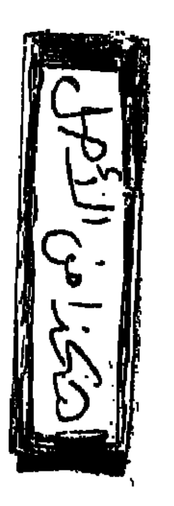
The fact that Brandt is now emphas the indispensability of peaceful ai self-determination and national u reflects not only the differences opinion within the Cabinet. Accordi the results of a public opinion p submitted to the Chancellor's Office t thirds of the sample interviewed beli that the government should only m agreements in German and Eastern E ropean policies if the Opposition ag

It is therefore no wonder that Br would like to find "the possible sup for sensible solutions among his o people", though party colleague Herb Wehner still recently wanted to annou the policy of mutuality of all Bunde parties.

Leo Bauer, one of Brandt's advisers said in the meantime that the G attacks on the SPD must be countered an ideological offensive. Is this the of a withdrawal from advance posit or will the Chancellor keep all doors between East and West?

Ulrich Frank-Plani

(CHRIST UND WELT, 24 April



Military training plays large role in life in the German Democratic Republic

Accusations of militarism are an essential part of the Socialist Unity Party's almost daily attacks on the Federal Republic.

How little entitled the government of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) is to make such accusations can be seen when comparing the number of soldiers serving in the Bundeswehr and the National People's Army (NVA), adding members of para-military units such as the Border Police and the police reserve as well as other associations concerned with military training (factory combat groups and the Association of Sport and Technology) and then considering these results in proportion to the population figures.

Of course the number of those serving in the National People's Army is never announced. But according to reliable estimates it totalled 186,000 in the middle of 1968. To this figure must be added 8,000 Border Police assistants, 16,000 police reserve, 8,500 transport police and 4,500 people serving with the Ministry of State Security.

This gives the total of 223,000 members of military and para-military organisations among a population of 17.1 million (including East Berlin). At the same time in the Federal Republic there were 493,000 members of the armed forces, the Border Guard and the police reserve from a population of sixty million (including West Berlin.)

The differences become even more striking when comparing pre-military training in the two parts of Germany. There is none in the Federal Republic, but in the GDR it begins at school, in the Ernst Thälmann Pioneer Organisation and Free German Youth (FDJ).

While the Pioneer Organisation generally contents itself with the "appreciation of the military function of the soldiers of the National People's Army and the Soviet Army", as *Neues Deutschland* reports, and only occasionally appears on manoeuvres, even those concerned with shooting as a sport, the military function of the FDJ is fixed in its statute. "Members of the FDJ consider it their honour and duty to acquire military knowledge and ability," the statute states.

At present the forty to fifty thousand boys and girls in the FDJ Order Groups, founded in 1959, receive a military-like training. The state of this training is examined in the annual Hans Beimler contests.

Youths aged between sixteen and eighteen receive basic military training at professional schools and the expanded upper schools. In a series of articles *Neues Deutschland* revealed that they learn the elements of military discipline and order as well as shooting, map-reading and first aid.

They also receive a military training for a career within the National People's Army. In this way future military drivers, intelligence officiers, parachutists, airmen and sailors will be trained. This career training is to be extended to boys aged fourteen to sixteen.

"The most intensive pre-military training is given to the 500,000 members of the Association of Sport and Technology (GST) founded in August 1952. To show how little this has to do with sport, the Organisation receives an annual grant of some 35 million Marks from the Ministry of National Defence budget, its direct superior.

Its members are trained in six "sports": shooting, flying, motoring and motorcycling, sea sport, intelligence sport and animal sport. Eighty hours are set for general training. This is followed by twelve-day courses of special training at GST-owned schools for air sport, glider sport, sea sport and intelligence.

The political position of this organ tion is plain. According to its statute "a mass organisation of workers under the leadership of the Soci Unity Party (SED) where socialist mi tary training prepares youths aged be tween eighteen and 24 for service with the NVA".

The Youth Law states that factory directors and administrative officials a compelled to support the work of the GS Since September 1968 its members ha worn grey uniforms.

The factory combat groups forme after the June rebellion of 1953 represe a certain military potential. Their ba training in "town, street and house t house battles" shows that they are ci war troops who swear to fulfil Part orders.

But their training consisting of fo hours a week, their organisation (in 19 there were approximately 142 heavy b talions) and their arms including machi guns, mortars, armoured vehicles a anti-tank guns together with the obli tion to cooperate with the NVA if ne cessary give the combat groups a certa

Continued on page 5

■ DEFENCE

Changes must not endanger our security

Whatever Defence Minister Helmut Schmidt has done for the armed forces during his six months in office, one fact sticks out: there is now far less controversy.

That is quite an achievement as nothing is more detrimental to sensible further development than hectic statements about the meaning and essence of the Army, often made out of past resentment or personal ambition.

Schmidt has managed to remove the controversial study on the Army's fighting power from the public eye. It is true that he has not provided an ideal solution to the tiresome problem of top-level organisation but he has brought it a step nearer the ideal within the realms of possibility. The re-organisation of the Army and the formation of a Home Guard are proceeding relatively smoothly.

The endeavour, sensible in itself, to navigate the armed forces into calmer waters could not succeed without unease spreading through the ranks of that part of this country's population that is allergic to all questions of security.

There are enough grounds for complaint. For during his latest visit to America Schmidt seems to have got nothing from his colleague Melvin Laird except pledges that there would be no drastic reduction of American troops in Europe until the first half of next year.

The Senate group headed by Senator Mike Mansfield has therefore increased its pressure on Richard Nixon's Republican government to reduce the number of troops in Europe. Nixon is at present beating off this pressure by reducing drastically the American presence in Vietnam. But how long will the Far Eastern reservoir last?

Together with the realisation that the American presence in Europe will be cut back sooner or later, other items of information are seeping through from the Defence Ministry in Bonn. The White Paper already announced will also deal with the question of whether conscription could be shortened to fifteen months or even a year. Is this together with the expected reductions of American troops in Europe not an omen of a further depreciation in the Federal Republic's security?

Schmidt's statement of the Federal Republic's readiness for a coordinated reduction of Nato and Warsaw Pact forces — emphasised again on his trip to America — should also be seen in this context. Do not plans of this type result in new asymmetrical situations as every American division has to withdraw to the other side of the ocean while Soviet troops have only to withdraw a few hundred miles?

Impressed by American arguments, Nato experts at their latest conference to discuss the nature of the situation are reported to have recognised that the military threat to Western Europe has decreased. Is this too not part of the general picture? Are the Americans perhaps providing the first arguments here for larger withdrawals in future?

The American view that the threat posed by the Warsaw Pact decreased last year is based on independent inquiries that Washington can influence only to a very limited extent — whether we can believe that possible or not.

As far as Schmidt's statements in the White Paper on inquiries into a sliding scale of periods of service in the Federal Republic are concerned, conjectures of this sort have been in the files of the Bonn Defence Ministry for at least two years. The question will not become relevant until certain pre-conditions have been fulfilled, above all the provision of a basically stronger corps of non-commissioned officers for the Army. This country's defence policy must inevitably adjust to the shrinking of the American presence in Europe.

We must not however skip nimbly over this point. If a few Americans were to remain in Europe with a trip-wire function, this would result in atomic weapons having to be used in the event of war far sooner; too soon for the Federal Republic at any rate. The reason may not be tactical but may be simply to prove that, in spite of the small number of American troops stationed in Europe, the United States were serious about defending western Europe.

But there is still a long way to go before American troops function merely as a trip-wire. And there is nothing at present to suggest that the Americans will pursue this course to the end. But the country does want to reduce its burden.

To that extent it should not be overlooked that the Bundeswehr has been increasing in number again since the spring of 1969, and not inconsiderably. In 1966 the Federal Republic's armed forces had reached their highest total of 454,800 men. The following year this figure sank to 452,000 and in 1968 fell further to 441,600. But since then there has been an upward trend and the armed forces are nearing the constant means that, the guaranteed strength of Bundeswehr units is actually ready for service so that training can be adapted to this. In 1969 a variable reserve of personnel was introduced to rule out any shrinkage. The 1969 White Paper envisages this reserve consisting of between 16,000 and 25,000 soldiers.

The formation of the variable reserve of personnel has not yet been decided in the armed forces. It can also be seen that conscripts here are no longer built up under the rubric of constant peacetime level.

It can be seen that the Army reorganisation, decided under Gerhard Schröder when he was Defence Minister, continued by Helmut Schmidt and energetically pursued by General Schnez, Commander of the Army, has its political side that of course none of those responsible wants to stress particularly.

The reorganisation of the Army is indeed ideally suited to close gaps of personnel but it is proceeding only at the lowest level of the Federal Republic's security. The only significant defence against the Soviet Union is the United States' atomic power.

The Army, Navy and Air Force are finally meant to deter the Soviet Union from a proxy war on Nato's Eastern front. That is possible, but only as long as the Western European Nato partners do not themselves give up.

Carl Haussmann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 24 April 1970)

Technological development makes long-term soldiers essential

It is not only difficulties with conscientious objectors that have moved Defence Minister Helmut Schmidt to invite public discussion on the idea of switching over to a professional army at the end of the seventies or beginning of the eighties, supplementing this move with the formation of a militia troop consisting of short-term conscripts.

One of the main factors that made him come to this decision was his concern for justice within the armed services. At the moment there are still too many who serve while others of the same age get the benefit.

On top of this the increasing technological development of the Army demands longer periods of training and service. Conscript service is too short a period to achieve standards demanded.

But there are many high obstacles to overcome before a professional army can be created. Even now the Bundeswehr is know, to be showing 31,000 non-commissioned officers and over 5,000 officers. Great Britain's example shows that volunteers do not join the army today in large numbers even if the pay is high. In spite of the fact that 600,000 people in Britain are unemployed the British Army still complains of a shortage of personnel.

Apart from this the formation of a professional army seems to be relevant at the present as no money will be available for it in the future. There is a tendency in all countries in the Western world to cut the defence budget in favour of the social welfare budget. This is also true of the Federal Republic. But on the other hand arms costs are rising astronomically. How then is a professional army to be financed?

Today the armed forces in this country consist of 471,500 men, including 3,000 reserves under arms. 54,090 are professional soldiers for life. This figure includes 22,890 officers and 31,200 non-commissioned officers.

A further 177,720 have signed on for a certain period of time ranging from two to twelve years. This figure includes 5,030 officers, 91,550 non-commissioned officers and 80,840 longer-term personnel. The total of conscripts in March 1970 was 237,000.

In terms of personnel costs (free medical treatment for instance) a conscript costs the State around 7,000 Marks a year, a longer-term soldier 11,820 Marks, a longer-term or professional non-commissioned officer 17,900 on average and a longer-term or professional officer (ranging from lieutenants to generals) 27,440 Marks a year.

Taking these figures into account together with the fact that the ratio of conscripts to professional and longer-term soldiers is at present approximately 53 and 47 per cent, the Bundeswehr would have to be considerably reduced to be in the position to finance a professional army with the money at present available.

Of course the military value of this type of professional army would be far greater than the present Bundeswehr. But it must be doubted whether Bonn can afford politically to reduce the Bundeswehr, even as late as the end of the seventies. The presence of American troops in Europe will almost certainly be as important for the Federal Republic in 1978 as now.

But, despite this, Schmidt's proposal deserves consideration and it is good that it has come so early. Rapid technological development will make a predominantly professional army more and more urgently necessary. But the transition from the present solution to the future solution will proceed over a long period of time because of the difficulties involving fi-

People must no longer imagine a professional army consisting of soldiers who will wear a uniform for most of their life. Longer-term soldiers are coming increasingly into the foreground.

Matthias Hoogen, Commissioner for the Bundeswehr in the Bundestag until recently, made some remarkable statements about this in his report for 1969. In all modern armies, he said, experience had shown that technically trained soldiers can be employed to best effect for eight to ten years at the most. The purely training period normally made up one third of the total time the soldier has signed on for.

The main reason for the limited period of use for technical soldiers, he continued, was that the weapon system according to which they are trained becomes obsolete after this period of time and has to be replaced.

Experiences gained in the old weapon system can, because of rapid technological progress, only be used to a limited extent in the new system. A long process of retraining is then necessary. Economic reasons rule out retraining and the longer service period afterwards.

Mental considerations limit the service period of soldiers entrusted with predominantly active fighting functions. An over-long service period would lead to a soldier becoming too old. The Army demands men who can be fully burdened.

The following demands must be met if recruitment of longer-term soldiers is to be more successful: 1. Pay according to performance and not length of service. 2. The many possibilities of specialisation for officers and NCOs must be brought into greater prominence. 3. Training, further training and function in the Army must be considered with the soldier's further role within industry in mind.

Peter Christian Müller

(Handelsblatt, 23 April 1970)

Continued from page 4

military importance. They are about 400,000 strong of which half are ready for service.

A report in *Neues Deutschland* (under the rubric Village News!) testifies to the spirit in which these groups are trained: "16.30 hours: The combat troops have fallen in for roll-call. Then on the march towards Dambeck comes the shout. "Gas!" Hands grasp gas-masks as quick as a flash. Everything happens within seconds. After four kilometres they are out of the danger area. But there is no talk of a rest. The masks are decontaminated and then the next task awaits: a strip of territory must be crossed within sight of the enemy. The troops run, take cover and watch the enemy with weapons cocked. They then creep and crawl along on their stomachs. The enemy is concealed in a swamp. Workers and cooperative farmers in grey uniforms gradually work their way closer. Rifle pits are built. But there are still serveral ordeals to face. At dawn the final test is over. The operation is a success. Every single comrade has given his best and shown great readiness to fight — to protect our Socialist Republic."

Government leaders do not leave any doubt as to who these enemies are. At a recent session of the State Council GDR Home Affairs Minister, Senior General Dickel, defended the draft of a law for civil defence.

According to the report in *Neues Deutschland* he dealt exclusively with the "imperialist and militarist forces of West Germany", accusing them of doing everything to further there plans for aggression and revision in alliance with American imperialism and the help of Nato.

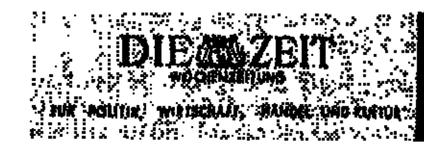
The draft was passed on to the People's Chamber. But it is extremely doubtful whether this body will purge the law of relics dating from the time of Cold War."

Walter Osten

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 23 April 1970)

■ PROFILE

Richard Neutra, the psychological architect, dies in Wuppertal



A wealth of ideas is revolving around my brain. But my eyes are no longer good enough to write everything down quickly. *I would prefer to tell you it all,*" was the message from Richard Neutra awaiting me when I recently returned home from Tokyo.

In her enthusiastic manner his wife Dione had announced that they were coming to this country in April and that further stops on their latest world tour would be Russia, Mongolia and Japan. There was also a proud postscript: "We have just received an invitation to a congress in Isfahan, Iran."

This was Richard Neutra's last world tour. On 16 April the Vienna-born American architect died of a heart attack in Wuppertal at the age of 78. He had come to this country to speak at a spa congress in Sindelfingen. No place in the world was too insignificant for him.

"He is working on a very important book containing all the philosophy of a long life." His wife's announcement in that last letter will not materialise. But right up to the very end the number of publications by and about this world famous architect did not decrease.

The last illustrated volume *Richard Neutra – Construction close to Nature* was published in Stuttgart by Alexander Koch at the beginning of the year. The book once again honours a series of detached houses that the architect built in the tropical scenery of Calefornia, in the Western deserts, in the Swiss Alps and in the north and West of the Federal Republic. Neutra always wanted to be close to nature.

Among his last buildings were the noble Casa Ebelin Bucerius in Switzerland and his own home on Silberlake Boulevard in Los Angeles that he rebuilt with masterly elan after a fire destroyed part of his life's work in 1963.

When he planned this house in 1931 it was a prototype for technological novelties that brought Neutra a reputation as an imaginative technologist and daring architect even in a country like America, technologically advanced and accustomed to comfort. This house formed the foundation of his later career in the United States.

Neutra went to America as early as 1923 after being influenced in Vienna by Otto Wagner, Adolf Loos and Sigmund Freud and working in Berlin with Erich Mendelsohn. In Chicago he met Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright and later Walter Gropius, Mies van der Rohe and other pioneers of twentieth century architecture who found opportunities to work in America.

Richard Neutra never tired of explaining that his work was meant to recognise patterns of human behaviour and investigate human reactions to environmental stimuli. Biological realism was the name he gave to his construction theory. His buildings were meant to give those who lived in them mental and physical well-being. He saw himself as a therapeutist creating psychotopes.

Of course the buildings were also functional, elegant and handsome, combining nature and architecture and, when compared with houses around, birds of paradise among sparrows. His style was unmistakeable and he never bothered about up-to-the-minute trends.

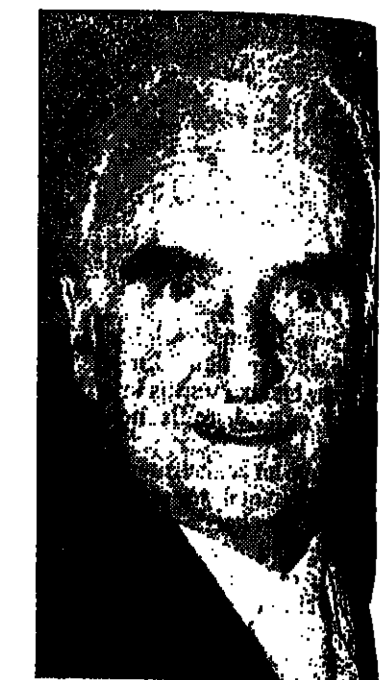
In his statements Neutra always conjured up the picture of the original dwelling place of Man in the twilight of the maternal womb and the merciless fall at birth into the spotlight of a world sparkling with instruments. He believed that it was the architect's function to restore to humans the protective surroundings that they need.

As Neutra worked like a doctor his actual preserve was the family house, in spite of other great plans for schools, churches, office blocks, hospitals, industrial installations and embassies all over the world.

Neutra was not joking when he said that he as an architect prevented divorces and made growing old more tolerable. He believed that buildings should be salutary, he believed that municipal planning and construction could be suitable preventive medicine and environmental damage controlled. The architect was guardian angel or an evil demon, always hidden from the sight of his protégés or victims..

The fiery statements he made seem to me to be justified. Indeed it is surprising even now how little architects take heed of the latest findings of psychological research and how little architecture fosters the individual and social development of humans.

News about Richard Neutra became rarer in recent years as the effects of old age gradually eroded his strength. W his house in Los Angeles was destroy be fire the international staff of architect's office left and he was ab form a father and son team with Neutra, one of his three sons and architect.


(Photo: d

Richard Neutra was active to the end. The basic missionary in his le cannot be overlooked. He was an ar tect who talked a lot and liked interpret his work both orally and writing.

For him publicity was the elixir of He wanted to be a successful ar biologist and psychologist and on top this a philosopher and wandering prea er. This did not bring only appl within specialist circles in his subject believed in his mission and endeav to be heard and understood *right up* the end.

Eka von Merveldt

(DIE ZEIT, 24 April 1)

Architects exhibit their plans for the towns of the future

There are two types of planners. The first type starts from existing conditions and tries to modify them according to the ever-changing economic, social and political aims of the time.

This group is in the majority and its members have the probability of success on their side.

Others ignore, detest and pass over what already exists. Their intention is extreme and critical and at times they even try to agitate.

They use thought patterns, ideal projections and Utopian sketches and plans in their attempt to gain new and better starting points and conditions for organising the human environment.

Their number is small and their thoughts and projects have little chance of being put into practice. But they are important as they open people's eyes to the Utopian aspect of all planning and contribute to the overthrow of taboos.

The *Speculations* of young Central European artists and architects that can be seen until 24 May at Berlin's Haus am Waldsee belong, for the most part, to the second group.

They are not the first Utopians of the century. The influence of Russian Constructivism, Japanese Metabolism, the London Archigram group and Austrian Urban Fictions are unmistakeable in the presentation.

But the exhibition is to a great extent original and really worth seeing! It ranges from Spindel's landscapes to the A.A.T. Group's atom warfare survival machinery, from Göhling's biological living blocks, grown with the support of chemicals and cybernetics, to the totally aesthetic and totally dynamised Fly-in City of Eikelboom.

There is considerable imagination behind these projects. Their practicability will not of course be taken seriously. But there is some reference to reality – their irrationality seems to be a direct result of acute grievances.

That is particularly plain with Florian Geiger who says that he has followed the development of the avant-garde in the creative arts with particular attention. Geiger goes on to recommend that the slum areas of American cities should be sprayed with high-quality fertiliser, earth and seeds.

To derive as much benefit as possible from a recreation park of primeval forests created in this way, Geiger suggests reconstructing suburbia in the form of circular buildings with honeycomb towers and cylindrical flats with connecting "inter-tower media" that can be tilted and revolved.

The towers and tubes are not all that remarkable but the principle of rotating discs connecting the various parts should be investigated further.

There are also mega-structures that have not raised antipathy towards existing towns.



'Speculation' by architect Adolf Luther (Photo: Hilde Zenker)

Adolf Luther's "Living Mountai consist of pre-fabricated rooms stac one on top of another and the archite content to imagine indeterminate m cipal construction without indivi houses. This idea needs little develop before it becomes a practical project.

The same is true for the project the Holzinger-Göpfert team that cam with a plan for a psychodynamic str long time ago. This street is now exhibition and still appears to be most convincing solution to the prob of integrating town and road space.

The other exhibits from these architects are unfortunately only in ture form but they betray an unus harmony between natural space and ficial objects. Hölzinger and Göpf show that aesthetics and humanity not mutually exclusive even in urb construction.

The Graz architects Domenig and Hu present a mega-structure intended f city-centre use. It is less artificial but ha a remarkable degree of maturity. Like Luther they have created an artistic build ing foundation in the form of a secondary construction.

In their plan this foundation will publicly financed and will remain public ownership, containing offic welfare departments. The rest of th structure will then house long-ter tenants who can use their rented space they wish. The connection between th private and the public sphere consists of semiofficial zone.

The architects describe their project a model of direct democracy. It is at least convincing alternative to the danger

Continued on page 7

■ LITERATURE

Heinrich Böll elected PEN president


(Photo: dpa)

The Federal Republic PEN club has held its annual general meeting in Darmstadt. Amid great acclaim Heinrich Böll was elected the new President of the PEN club.

The former President, Dolf Sternberger, had been in office for six years and did not stand for re-election. He is now the Federal Republic PEN club's Honorary President.

Thilo Koch received the most votes for the position of Secretary-General. Vice-Presidents are Joachim Kaiser, Hans Schwab-Felisch and Hermann Kesten. Herr Kesten formerly held the position of Vice-President.

The committee has an advisory board to which seven members have been elected. The delegate of the Federal Republic PEN club on the fairs council of the Frankfurt book fair is Richard Hey.

PEN club is an international group of authors and writers. It knows no division between East and West. But there are differences in structure among its many branches, where diverse house rules apply.

For this reason it was a topic of discussion in Darmstadt whether the invitation to the international PEN meeting in Seoul should be accepted. After all one of the South Koreans abducted from the Federal Republic is still imprisoned.

At Darmstadt the decision taken was to accept the invitation to Seoul only if certain prerequisites were fulfilled.

Professor Dolf Sternberger defended the PEN club against accusations that it was not a sufficiently politically engaged organisation. He claims that the critics who levelled this reproach at PEN obviously have a false conception of what the word "politics" really means, and should not confuse it with Utopian ideals and reveries.

Moreover Herr Sternberger wanted a certain "degree of enmity toward the State" to be overcome. "Amicable relations with the State" would be preferable in his opinion.

Since Federal Republic PEN is opening its membership lists to more and more young, and largely politically involved, authors, it is impossible to avoid loose splinter groups forming.

Inevitable heated discussions and differences of opinion are a lifegiving part of the PEN club, and the meeting at Darmstadt proved this adequately.

Such discussions are a vital part of the club's *raison d'être*. It's declared duties are to defend the internationality of all literatures, to defend its members against suppression of their right of freedom of expression and to resolve the conflicts that occur in the concept to reconciliation of peoples and freedom for the individual.

If Peter O. Khotiewitz had his way every PEN member would consider it his duty to stand for changes from the old class-ridden society.

And Richard Hey is of the opinion that the international PEN club cannot be quite so international if it condemns the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Soviet troops, but stays mum about the use of napalm bombs in North Vietnam.

There is ample proof that the way PEN operates is not so one-sided as Richard Hey would have us believe.

This authors' club has in the past five years called for the release of writers incarcerated in the following countries: Czechoslovakia, Greece, Haiti, Indonesia, South Korea, Mexico, Nigeria, Poland, the Union of South Africa, South Vietnam, Spain, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Taiwan, Turkey, Uganda, the Ukraine, Yugoslavia. In all too many cases however the efforts of PEN to regain freedom for these writers have failed.

Even if it is not PEN's business to give political pointers (and thus meet the ideological demands of Khotiewitz) and even if it is not the duty of PEN to present the arguments it holds at its meeting for the release of prisoners to the general public, since this is an aim that can best be achieved through diplomatic means, then at least the debates on this topic have brought something interesting and valuable to light.

The Federal Republic PEN club has given up its aura of extreme self-confidence. It has renewed its self-awareness.

It will have to keep renewing this self-awareness permanently if it is not to overlook the changes that our society is going through and if it is to prize the membership of every single author and consider this an honour.

Since PEN is forced by its principles to join the international fight for the bases of freedom, openly boasting of this, it suffers in the face of the public. Scarcely any notice is taken of PEN by members of the general public.

And even though PEN does make a public appearance once a year the scant amount of attention that is paid the organisation is just pitiful. Unless it can obtain for itself an adequate system of public relations PEN will continue to be a society in the shadows.

The audience at the public meeting of PEN in Darmstadt's *Orangerie* was sparse. Manès Sperber and François Bondy spoke on "Freedom of Literature – Freedom of Writers".

This sparse audience became steadily sparser since the planned few words of introduction from Professor Sternberger turned out to be a longwinded talk, which did not allow the two speakers to go through with the speeches they had planned. These rehearsed speeches had to be curtailed and ended up as aphorisms.

Bondy gave a reminder of the time between the First World War and the conquest of Fascism when many writers, including Heinrich Mann and Alfred Döblin, were convinced that the State would now become humane and that men of letters would play an important role in the life of the State.

These were illusions that these writers eventually had to give up.

They became more modest. They no longer expected too much. They made their appearance as closed groups sharing common opinions.

Nor did they expect any longer that each individual writer would let his literary fame be identified with strength of character.

Bondy quoted Günter Grass who said: "I can see that authors themselves are muddled and have no faith in the effect of what they are writing".

The call for revolution certainly had something about it. But without doubt the far more meaningful call was to writers to think for themselves.

Just how dangerous a writer's capacity to think original thoughts for himself can be to the powers-that-be in totalitarian States was demonstrated by Bondy in the almost contrary treatment of Yevtshenko an Sinyavsky in the Soviet Union.

The general gist of what he said was: what on earth is the use of the bathos of freedom in the modern world if this freedom is exclusive of freedom to think and to express one's thoughts pungently.

Or in the words of the coloured American James Baldwin: "You need distance and shock."

Manès Sperber places great stress on this concept of distance.

The author's aim, he said, must be total independence. The writer must be independent of friend and foe alike. Also he must try to remain independent of the spirit of the times in which he is writing and not be influenced by them unduly, as far as is possible.

What he said literally was that the writer must, "swim against the flow of the current!"

During a brief discussion Manès Sperber had to confess that in certain circumstances it might well be right for an author to swim with the current. One example of where writers should swim with the current was the case of the French Encyclopaedists.

He stressed that in our present-day society conformism could no longer hope to be interpreted by those who practise it as a revolutionary attitude.

According to him terroristic maxims are in the present day very much à la mode, but they are nothing more.

What Sperber means by this is that they are very much indebted to a contemporary spirit which gets into pores like the finest sand in the desert.

It is precisely this against which today's authors and writers must battle.

"Zeitgeist" is of course an unfortunate expression since it is not identical with "Geist der Zeit", by which every contemporary work is surely and undeniably influenced to a greater or lesser extent.

Much more can be done with Manès Sperber's criterion, which he applies to his fellow human beings: "How would he react in an illegal state? Could I put my trust in that person? "

Helmut M. Braem

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 20 April 1970)

Continued from page 6

erosion of available building space still fostered by our building legislaiton.

Two projects cannot be included among large urban structures. These are Hans Baumann's multi-purpose pneumatic videodomes to be seen in the garden of the Haus am Waldsee and Engelbert Kremser's "earth architecture", which is thought of primarily as a constructive contribution. Concrete is poured into pre-moulded holes in the earth.

With the sharp granulation connected with this method and the partial fortuitousness of the mainly convex and concave forms Kremser hopes to bring some life into the monotony of existing town and street landscapes.

Berlin children have already taken over one of his concrete caves on the Senftenberger Weg. A second will soon be at their disposal in the Märkisches Viertel.

Who said there's no future for Utopians?

Anna Teut

(DIE WELT, 22 April 1970)

Tilly Wedekind (Photo: dpa)

Frank Wedekind's 'Lulu' dies in Munich aged 84

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

A trim little old lady with a hairnet on her hair and a chiffon scarf used to be present at all the more important Munich Kammerspiel premieres.

These have become rarer in recent years and now the little old lady is dead. She was Frank Wedekind's widow, Tilly, and when she died in Munich she was 84.

In 1906 when she was 20 Tilly Newes married the famous dramatist, then aged 42. Looking back on those days she has admitted that it was not so much the constantly jealous man as the dramatic poet that fascinated her.

This is no surprise since Frank Wedekind wrote his best female roles for Tilly.

Tilly Newes came from Graz. She was already on the stage in her childhood. Later she was what is known as a classical sentimentalist.

Wedekind's plays were at first subject to rigorous censorship and could only be performed in private.

One such production was Karl Kraus' version of Wedekind's *Büchse der Pandora* (Pandora's Box) in Vienna. There Wedekind first met his *Lulu* and later Tilly was to say that Lulu had become her life's role.

In this presentation Adele Sandrock, Anton Edthofer, Werner Krauss and Egon Friedell acted. Wedekind himself played Jack the Ripper.

Strangely enough when we look at pictures of the actors in their roles now we wonder where the daemonic fascination came from that permeated this play. Perhaps it came from the acting of the dramatist opposite his Tilly/Lulu in his own drama, which went on tour for many years.

When Wedekind died in 1918 the major part of Tilly's acting career came to an end. She played only the occasional bit-part, mainly in classical plays.

Later on Gottfried Benn became her friend of many years standing. When asked about him on her eightieth birthday Tilly Wedekind said: "It is strange. Though my relationship with him was so long and so enduring I do not very often think back on it."

With her memoirs *Lulu, My Life's Role* the old lady had a certain amount of success, largely because she was so frank.

Now Lulu has been laid to rest in Munich's Waldfriedhof beside the man who created her.

Above the grave of the dramatist and his wife stands a slender column and at the top a statue of Pegasus dancing lightly upon an orb.

(DIE WELT, 23 April 1970)

■ EDUCATION

German studies face regeneration process

ONLY GOETHE AND HÖLDERLIN ENCHANT

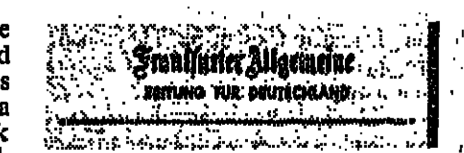
Pierre Bertaux, a German-language scholar from the Sorbonne and head of the newly founded Institut d'Etudes Germaniques at Asnières, asked what a French student of German would think when suddenly confronted with the Federal Republic as the country of BASF and Höchst Farben after having dealt exclusively with Kleist and Hölderlin.

The scene of this question was Munich University where a week-long international seminar was being held by the Goethe Institute to discuss German studies.

Eighty experts, lecturers of German at universities, educational specialists and authors of text books, the majority of them from the United States, Great Britain, France, Scandinavia, Finland, Belgium and the Netherlands discussed amongst themselves and with German colleagues such tricky themes as "Culture and German-speaking countries" and such intricate subjects as school systems, educational plans and, of course, university reform.

There was little participation from Eastern European countries. The subject was obviously too close to politics for them.

The reason for the congress is that both here and abroad, and all participants agreed on this point, the foundations of Grimm's and Staiger's German studies are being undermined. Motives are admittedly very different.



German studies in this country are connected with many other subjects and there is a plain coming to terms with national mythology, a process that is described with the fashionable words "new self-comprehension" and "formation of consciousness."

From the French or Scandinavian point of view the question is more general: has the old-style philology that combines study of language and literature and relates them to each other still any sense or function? Should literature not be seen in the context of a total civilisation as an indicator of social change and historical processes? And, if we must speak of *études germaniques*, must it not be content to be one element among many?

Pierre Bertaux has gone further than all other people in taking literature out of German studies. He has firmly established this trend at French universities with his reform of studies and examinations. He takes delight in epigrammatic phrases like the one that when Schiller is referred to Karl is meant and not Friedrich.

The Asnières institute deals with the history of the Social Democrat Party or the property ratios in the Ruhr. *Cours de civilisation*, the old study of national customs, is no longer auxiliary but an independent study and an end in itself. Future German-language teachers at French grammar schools will know the country. A longish period of residence in Germany as part of their study will guarantee that they have seen the Ruhr and the Höchst concern, and perhaps Weimar and Marbach, with their own eyes.

Of course there is something "left-wing" in this. Asnières is anticipating and thus forestalling part of the revolution at French universities.

Gustav Korlén of Stockholm showed that there were other modernisation plans, and other ways to form a political judgement. Until recently German studies in Sweden were strictly philological – only mediaeval literature was a worthy source for linguistic study.

Korlén broke the rules and did not work his way up from Luther to Lessing and thence to Liliencron but began with the moderns, inviting *Gruppe 47* to Sigtuna – literary study as literary management with far-reaching results.

Here too we see the trend to a study of civilisation. *Gruppe 47* and *Gruppe 61* now invited are both groups dependent on politics and sociology. It was also a political phenomenon that poet Wolf Biermann could not accept Korlén's invitation as he was not allowed to leave the German Democratic Republic.

Pupils in Sweden learning German are given an objective introduction to Germany, Austria and Switzerland with literary texts.

At the international seminar Korlén attacked literary defeatism and quoted Walter Jens: "Fiction in the strictor sense of the word is becoming increasingly irrelevant, literature in the broad sense increasingly more binding."

The Classical tradition has not been abandoned in Sweden. Two works, *Woyzeck* and the first part of *Faust*, still appear on reading-lists.

In America the situation is completely different. German studies at university level are flourishing thanks to the large number of universities and the even greater number of colleges. Thousands of teachers are simultaneously prod[…] and audience.

German or other foreign languages[…] matriculation requirements for cer[…] subjects, the same as Latin is in […] Federal Republic. But university ref[…] is eroding these additional demands. […] too little is done for foreign languag[…] high school.

That means that all the more tro[…] must be taken in putting the subject o[…] in a contemporary style. The study […] national customs is an attractive meth[…] Visitors to a college's French, Spanish […] German department will be confron[…] with colourful advertisements that co[…] easily grace a travel agent's.

The American education system i[…] varied that there are no fixed plans […] models, only trends and proposals. P[…] fessor Victor Lange of Princeton refe[…] to the growing inclination to study li[…] ture as a general subject, if need be u[…] the title of comparative literature, and n[…] longer make it dependent on the study o[…] a language. Europe is a long way aw[…] and, for Americans, tends to merge in[…] one big unit.

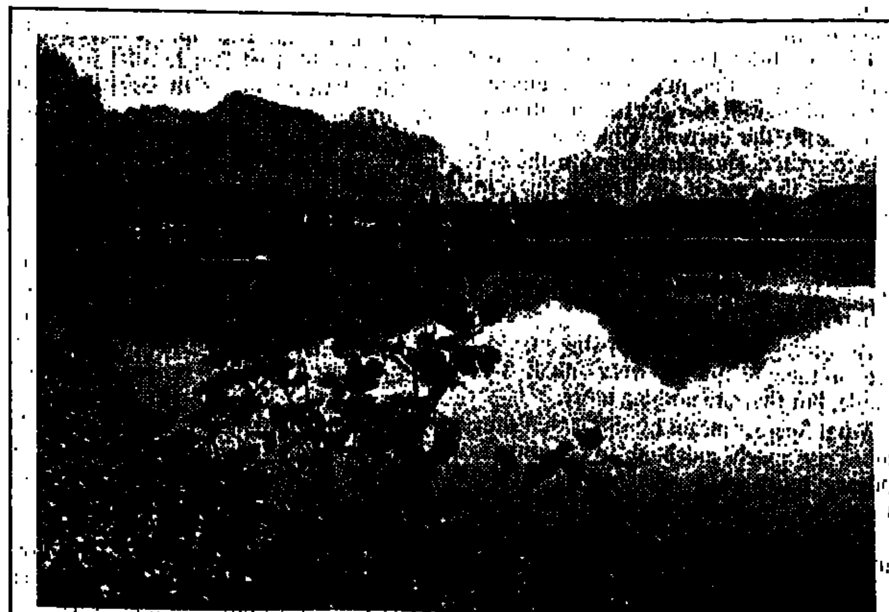
Professor Weiss of Minneapolis sp[…] for the pragmatists; he stressed the […] terest in culture with a small "c" an[…] everything that could not be tea[…] everyday but forms an important aspe[…] studies of natural customs and cha[…] teristics, such as forms of greeting, t[…] manners, and leisure time activities.

Nobody wanted to resuscitate the o[…] racial psychology with the eternal Ge[…] man, Norwegian and Turk. But Bri[…] and American participants were conv[…] ed that behaviour research could be ca[…] ed out in this field as scientific collect[…] and classification work.

Professor Cheval, head of the cultu[…] department at the French embassy i[…] Bonn, made the half humorous, ha[…] serious suggestion that a subject cal[…] imagology should be set up to study o[…] and new stereotyped opinions abo[…] members of foreign races for the purpo[…] of control, correction and the supply […] better information.

One striking factor was the mini[…] interest shown by all these Germ[…] scholars in inter-German contentions […] was asked why the German Democr[…] Republic was not represented but nob[…] gave a serious thought to splitting W[…] German from East German culture.

Austria and German-speaking Swit[…] land were represented by historians […] literary historians. They did not insis[…] separate Austrian or Swiss studies […] wanted their special role within the G[…] man-speaking area to be stressed.



Only occasional mention of contemporary confusion

The confusion of our times and their revolutionary aims found only occasional expression such as when Bertaux's assistant explained the broader perspectives of Asnières. But it was plain how much of a danger our old educational system faces not only because many people do not want it any more but also because there are so many new factors that must be assimilated.

Gone are those idyllic times when progressive modern philologists had to fight for grammar school pupils learning French to be capable of ordering a beer at the Gare du Nord. Nothing lasts these days. Those who quote Goethe are immediately suspect.

It was therefore a good end to the seminar when, on the last day when the Goethe Medallion was to be awarded, Pierre Bertaux, the iconoclast, gave a sparkling lecture on Goethe's topicality. It began with a personal anecdote. When a child, Pierre picked on the name Goethe (his father, Félix Bertaux, also indulged in German studies) and identified it with the German puppet Käthe.

This *recherche du temps perdu* ga[…] him an excuse to deal with Goethe[…] puppet symbolism. A wide panoram[…] opened up at a press of a button wi[…] puppetry and aesthetic sense and love of[…] marionettes and Doctor Faustus and […] and ... and in the twinkling of an eye […] and out of a top hat its relation to th[…] present, the revivification of the hi[…] torical. German studies not as litera[…] history nor as the study of nation[…] customs but as magic.

When results were compared at the en[…] of the seminar everybody knew th[…] German studies had to change. A proce[…] of death and regeneration faces the sub[…] ject, pitiless though beneficial.

Together with and after Weimar Höch[…] is useful and a necessary part of *étud[…] germaniques*. But even a man like Berta[…] was only able to enchant his audien[…] with Goethe and Hölderlin.

Werner Ross

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 April 1970)

■ CYBERNETICS

Speaking computers are just around the corner

Telephone-users in many cities in this country have for years been accustomed to the automatic announcement service – the caller dials a three-figure number and is given recorded information on the weather, what's on at the cinema or which chemists are open at the weekend.

Unfortunately many callers have to waste a lot of time listening to a long tape if they chance to miss the news item that interests them. Banks and industrial firms have the same problem. All they want are certain short items of information from a narrow specialist field such as the stock exchange or market analysis.

These problems were brought up in several lectures at the Berlin Cybernetics Congress. They can be summed up in one sentence: there must be better selection and filtering of material and it must be shorter.

Obtaining reports and information from a computer store or programming installation is technically simple. So why should we wait for yards of paper tape to be printed? "The worst comes at the end. Where is all this superfluous paper to go? How many offices today still have ovens where all this rubbish can be burnt?"

With this question Manfred Krause, a qualified engineer and colleague of Professor Winckel in the science of communications department at Berlin's Technical University, caused an appreciative nodding of heads among his 400 listeners.

In his lecture on methods of producing computer-controlled language he showed how the sounds of the human voice could be reproduced by technical equipment without previously using a speaker and magnetic tape and how this had already been done in laboratories.

Information is taken from the computer memory in code form as electronic impulses. An impulse generator (to produce the voiced sounds) and a "roar generator" (to produce voiceless sounds) must transform the controlling impulses they receive into comprehensible sounds with the help of special connecting links.

This happens simultaneously in sixteen channels where the frequency groups that produce sound are treated separately and amplified. At the end of the whole chain there is a loudspeaker that broadcasts the sentence that may contain very important up-to-the-minute news for an export firm for instance – and all in little more than fifteen seconds.

This process is admittedly not yet advanced enough for manufacture. Other lecturers at the congress showed that a great deal of refined mathematics was needed to adapt the electronic impulses in such a way that really plain and comprehensible sounds were produced.

E. Paulus of the computer programming department at Munich's Technical University had already dealt with the role of individual sounds in the perception and recognition of words. When investigating the possibilities of confusing German words he found that a certain ratio of falsely coloured phonemes – an "a" for instance that gradually becomes an "o" – are not recognised or not automatically corrected.

This mistake level can be reduced by a suitable learning process. It was shown that there is still a large number of problems concerning speech analysis to be solved before it will also be possible to read information directly into a computer store and thus gain valuable time.

Two other Munich scientists were concerned with the decrease in the flow of data. Professor Eberhard Zwicker and his staff in the department of electro-acoustics studied anatomy and from the results developed a functioning model of the human ear that possesses similar characteristics for reducing information.

This method may make it possible to fulfil one important demand of computer technology – carrying information over a data channel similar to a simple telephone cable that is receptive only to a limited extent and thus more economic.

The same principle is being aimed for in picture transmissions and "Sign production with data view equipment and reckoners" as Dr H. Schreiber from the central Siemens laboratory for news technology called his lecture. Here scientists are concerned with drastically reducing the time needed to transmit a complete picture or a figure such as the constructional drawing of a machine part. Here demands are made (and have been partially fulfulled) that existing lines for transmitting data can carry graphic computer elements.

At the end of the congress there was a flash-back to the beginnings made in this science a century ago. There was plenty to give practitioners of this advanced subject food for thought.

Dr V. Henn of the department of physiology at Berlin's Free University mentioned a centrifugal force regulator. The inventor lived in England around 1750 and built windmills but his name is not known.

It is astonishing that the first scholar to recognise the natural principle of regulation and control and attempt to apply it to humans has been forgotten. He is Felix Lincke, the Leipzig-born professor who worked at Darmstadt Technical University from 1873 to 1911. Cyberneticians all over the world should set up a monument to this man who founded our electro-technology along with Werner von Siemens.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 21 April 1970)

Aural measuring device has world-wide significance

Difficulties involved in finding out whether children under two years old are hard of hearing and, if so, to what extent, will in future be overcome by a method developed by Dr Walter Kumpf, head physician at Münster University's ENT Clinic.

As two per cent of all children suffer from deafness inhibiting the development of their intelligence, the director of the clinic, Professor Karl Mündnich, believes that this country's respiratory audiometrics has world-wide significance. Full exploitation of this at the Münster clinic is however prevented by a lack of both money and staff.

When developing the process, Dr Kumpf proceeded from the fact that the scarcely audible sound resulting from breathing would be enough to drown the fine sound waves that the ear would otherwise register.

Breathing as a disturbing factor is then suppressed by a controlling mechanism whenever the ear registers a fine sound sensation between two intakes of breath.

If the noise of breathing is measured during the influence of sound, this results in the lowest sound level that the ear transmits to the brain. For the measurements Dr Kumpf uses a tape recorder and a graph writer to record a contour of the noise involved in breathing. The lowest aural level can then be accurately gauged.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 April 1970)

Illegitimate children more liable to die at birth or soon after

Illegitimate children are far more liable to die at or before birth or during the early stages of infancy than legitimate children, according to gynaecologists Professor Jost Jaeger and Dr K. Valdenaire.

They established that infant mortality figures between the 28th week of pregnancy and the seventh day of life as well as in later stages of early childhood are twice as high in this group.

During the years from 1963 to 1967 they compiled information from 10,000 births at Mannheim University Women's Hospital and discovered that more than a quarter of all unmarried mothers had no medical supervision of any kind during their pregnancy. Illegitimate children also compare unfavourably as far as size and weight at birth are concerned.

Professor Jaeger said: "The high proportion of illegitimate children causes a sharp rise in the mortality rate, caused by weakness and premature birth."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 April 1970)

Machines cannot hope to replace human nervous system

Research into the structure and function of our nervous system always used to be the preserve of anatomists and neurologists. Physiologists did not realise until much later that the bundle of nerves leading from the inner ear and cornea to the brain is more than a type of extra-fine telephone cable.

Nerves really form a complicated system to transmit information from the receivers of visual, aural or motive impressions in the form of impulses of different frequency.

It is not only the number of nerve cells that is large in this system. There are also many separate channels that finally end up in the brain's "news receivers" in the form of concentric axons. There are several connections between them and they form a dense network of nerves. Their natural function is obviously far more than that of a mere filter.

Dr Horst Tischner, Professor of Electronic Technology at Hanover's Technical University, dealt with the processing of information in these peripheral nerve networks at the 188th session of the Rhine-Westphalian Academy of the Sciences at Düsseldorf.

Investigations into cuttlefish and other animals with an easily accessible nervous system showed that these networks filter the impulses they receive so that only the most important information goes through.

The many synapses function as stores or memories. They obviously "know" what information should be allowed to go through. In this way each chain in the nervous system further intensifies the informational contrast, sharply separating similar sounds, pictures of motive impressions. Interference can be suppressed and the useful signal comes to the brain even if half the nerve cells strike.

The selection made by nature here is of the greatest interest for modern communications technology. Though scientists have not yet managed to reproduce this to such a degree of perfection in any artificial system meant to replace humans.

Knowledge is fragmentary and in its first stages as far as the processing of information in the brain itself is concerned. There are both experimental and theoretical difficulties that will perhaps not be overcome until many years of further research work have elapsed.

Neuro-physiologists will have to give up the most usual course to date – Professor Huber of Cologne called it a chemical game with molecules – and deal with the theory and technology of the informational system instead.

In other words modern electronic and communications technology will be used to a greater extent in future in further work into the peripheral network of nerves. It is plain that the computer must be used, especially in that area that could be described as the mutual adaptation of man and machine.

Anthropo-technology, as an attempt to organise the collaboration of Man and technology as well as possible, gives plenty of information in its present stage of development on the efficiency and stress maximum of the human information system.

Professor Rainer Bernotat of Berlin, for the past year head of a new research institute for anthropo-technology at Meckenheim near Bonn, dealt especially with the many demands made on Man in directing dynamic systems (driving sea, air or space vehicles for instance).

Extensive investigation into navigational and flight control problems always showed that automatic devices can replace humans' only in routine tasks and standard situations. Humans must always have a supervision and command function but this division of labour is sensible only if the apparatus can be adequately adapted to its human control in its temporal behaviour.

Adapting technical control systems means for instance that the various instruments indicating states and conditions must be formed within the perception scale of the human senses. The service parts of a system of this type must be coördinated to the production capacity of human information distribution so that the whole remains sufficiently flexible in all conceivable situations.

Investigations into many aeroplane accidents and collisions at sea have plainly shown that excessive demands can be made on human beings when they have to process several impressions at the same time or cannot react quickly enough physically to various items of information.

One of the aims of anthropo-technological research is to establish what information must be given to pilots and ship captains in digital form and which in analogue form. A reckoner included in the control system could indeed relieve human beings of some of their tasks but it would not relieve them of their function of making critical course corrections. Manned space flights have shown often enough that rational human judgement cannot be replaced by machines, even in the future.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 18 April 1970)

■ THE ECONOMY

Green light for Britain, Denmark, Eire and Norway to join the Six

Economic integration in Western Europe has entered a new phase. Foreign Ministers and Ministers of Agriculture in the European Economic Community have with their compromise on communal wine importation regulations and the signing of the Common Market finance programme at last cleared the way for Great Britain, Norway, Denmark and Eire to join the Six.

Rarely in the past has there been such a good chance as there is today for the European Economic Community to develop into an economic and currency union at great speed.

Perfection, extension and broadening the scope of the Community was the French formula for its future progress expressed at The Hague summit conference.

The twelve-year transition period of the European Economic Community officially came to an end on 31 December 1969.

As far as France was concerned agricultural financing was the decisive element in perfecting the Market without which Paris would not give the green light for the European Economic Community to be expanded.

Agricultural financing together with extension of the budgeting powers of the European Parliament formed the "finance package" on which Foreign Ministers achieved accord at the beginning of this year.

Italy had only agreed to sign, however, on condition that a satisfactory revision of legislation on wine imports had been introduced beforehand.

And so the Agriculture Ministers debated in vain during long tiring night sessions. It required steadily increasing political pressure to force the Agriculture Ministers to make a compromise since they had lost themselves in a jungle of technical details with regard to wine imports.

Possible political consequences if this fails were an obstacle to negotiations about the wine problem according to Federal Republic Agriculture Minister Josef Ertl. Regarding the interests of the wine trade alone this may well be right. On the other hand it must be admitted that this very background made the first contribution towards clearing the way for further integration and extension of the Common Market.

Suspicions are still being uttered occasionally that France will in the end utilise the tricky wine problem to hamper preparations for negotiations to enable



new countries to join the Market, but there has been no confirmation of this.

On the contrary it is striking how in recent months the negotiations of Foreign Ministers and their colleagues in agriculture ministries which often ran parallel have become divergent.

While Agriculture Ministers were having growing difficulties in formulating new wine import regulations because they were being put under pressure by vineyard owners in their respective countries, the Foreign Ministers' preparations for negotiations to allow the four new members to join pressed on regardless at great pace.

Moreover the French Foreign Minister came up with proposals for extending the scope of communal integration in the Market, for example in the sphere of industrial policy.

Today we must accept that France is among the strongest champions of plans to extend the Market. France is also among those countries calling for expansion of the internal structure of the Community as quickly as possible.

The meeting of the advisory council in Luxemburg confirmed this tendency. The Foreign Ministers have achieved further progress in setting a common basis for negotiations on entry.

This is especially the case with regard to developing the European Economic Community into an economic and currency union.

In the coming weeks the pa highly respected currency experts the chairmanship of Prime Minister ner of Luxemburg will present its ge report on the various stages of the This report will presumably form basis for the future programme of Common Market in this sphere.

The decision of European Foreign isters to pursue as quickly as possi industrial policy based on the Euro Commission's memorandum and suggestions that have come from French Foreign Minister, conceived a matter of weeks ago, shows the breath-taking speed with which the sion of the European Economic munity is surging forward after yea stagnation.

As early as this June when the ministers intend to throw some li the deepening and widening proc the Community with a progress the Common Market ambassadors Brussels are to work out directions, and priorities.

One of the least satisfactory matt thought to be the compromise that culture ministers have fought out question of wine imports.

In the face of supporting and alig prices for that red wine which important to France and which pri been set quite high at the request French, experts can see a dang further overproduction although fects of the wine import regulatio not yet exactly and precisely clear.

Anyhow the problem of agric surpluses and the communal syste market structuring will have to be sidered a new in the light of an e structural and regional policy.

The price of wine imports regu that are perhaps afflicted with a s not too high to pay for a new dyn in Europe's economic integration.

The European Economic Commu should seize its chance.

Eberhard Wisdorf

(DIE WELT, 23 April

Keep price increases in bounds, says Berg

Duty number one of the Federal Republic economy at the moment is to keep further price increases within bounds, according to the President of the Federal Industrial Union, Fritz Berg, at the annual general meeting of the *Deutsche Industrie Institut.*

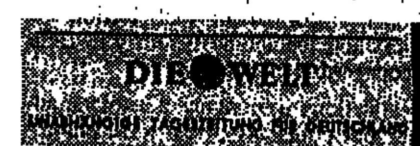
If this should fail then in the fore- a decided swing of the economic pendulum in the wrong direction.

Nobody should take any course of action whatsoever, in Herr Berg's opinion, that might lead to a situation endangering jobs.

Fritz Berg has developed the following plan:

1) Amendments to Company Law.
2) Greater protective measures for workers of long standing.
3) Added measures to enable accumulation of capital wealth with the aid of fiscal agreements.
4) Thoroughgoing checks on the draft plan for amendments to Monopolies Legislation.
5) Fiscal reform without increasing tax burdens.
6) Development of the European Economic Community, with the entry of Great Britain and other countries.

President of the Federal Union of Employers, Otto A. Friedrich, remarked that, despite the upward surge of salary



expenses and prices, there is still the chance to set this country's economy on the most beneficial course of improvement over a medium term and thereby stabilise economic progress at a high level of employment.

Agreements on new tariffs should not however, in his opinion, be permeated with dismal fears of further price rises.

Professor Rolf Rodenstock, President of the Industrial Institute committee, criticised the increasing tendency to cast doubts on the function of the industrialist and his proprietary relationship to means of production.

Industrialists, he claimed, are disturbed by the one-sided prejudices of sections of the younger generation.

(DIE WELT, 24 April 1970)

Mansholt Plan for agriculture to be modified

In the coming weeks European Economic Community Vice-President Sicco Mansholt will present new proposals to the six member country governments modifying the Mansholt Plan that has so shocked farmers and Agriculture Ministers within the Six.

After the shock therapy he practised at the outset, Mansholt is now bringing realism into the foreground. He has achieved his aim of shaking the general public in Europe by the scruff of the neck and pointing out the structural sickness of agriculture within the European Economic Community.

The sharp reaction of farmers who were driven to hateful, unwarranted and unjustified and even personal attacks on the Vice-President has shown how successful Mansholt was in his endeavours to rub salt into the wound of Common Market agrarian policy.

He highlighted the extent to which an effective structural policy had been neglected.

As long as this situation obtains there will be chronic surpluses within the Community which will cost tax payers more and more money all the time.

These continued factors would have a political aspect too in that they would make attempts to get Britain into Europe more difficult.

For one thing is clear. Britain is not prepared to accept the agricultural policy in its present form piling up mountains of useless food. Nor is Britain prepared to go along with the kind of price fixing policy which is responsible for causing this malaise in Europe.

If this were to happen the efficient British agricultural system would soon itself be producing butter and wheat mountains and the like and would therefore only be contributing to the financial chaos in Europe's agriculture.

Surpluses are not governed by the seasons but by market structure. This is precisely what the European Economic Community Agriculture Ministers wanted to make people believe, in their abortive debates on how to stem production.

Costly special measures for cutting down grain, sugar and butter silos show this adequately. Anyone who does not recognise this is ignoring stark reality and committing himself solely into God's hands.

The problem of surpluses cannot be resolved by clearing up the symptoms. Long-term therapy is needed. This was described in the first Mansholt Plan and is what has been modified in the latest.

The modifications now proposed will make the original Mansholt Plan more elastic, show more deference to the farmers' wishes and hence it will be more realistic.

This can be said already with some degree of certitude although details of Mansholt's new suggestions are so far only known in fragmentary form.

Mansholt is no longer relying on minimum amounts for specialised production or minimum numbers for cattle stock. In his new plan an aimed-for agricultural income will be the yardstick for structural improvements necessary in the European Economic Community.

The figures aimed at can in fact achieved by larger agricultural op tions. For this reason Mansholt i tinuing to stress the greater viabi larger units and states that smaller should only continue to exist if th highly specialised.

No doubt remains that a selecti will have to fall and prune the agric economy for its own good.

The role of society in all this is financial aid and encouragement to farmers who are seeking their live elsewhere or who wish to retire maturely.

Industriekurier

In some cases it will be necess make such a change of profession by building industrial estates and farmers and those who have worked the land specialised training.

As a general rule agriculture wi future have to have more managers, cutives with expert training in all sec legal, financial and industrial aspects the business. An information netw built up of experts will in Mansholt's aim in the same direction.

The original Mansholt Plan wi improved with suggestions of efficien to older farmers, laying land fal development of agricultural cond with selective subsidies, the setting up seats in agricultural colleges and education of social welfare and econo advisers.

Hans-Heinz Schlenke

(Industriekurier, 18 April 1

■ INDUSTRY

Builders try to beat winter disadvantages

Every spring the building trade presents the bill for the cost of the winter. And every year the claim is made that a great part of these costs could have been saved.

This long rigorous winter hit builders particularly hard. The trade reckons that the damage done amounts to 2,200 million Marks

Builders' labourers claim to have lost about 500 million Marks in pay. And this despite the fact that the Federal Institute for Labour Exchanges which is responsible for insuring workers against redundancy will have to pay building workers about 1,500 million Marks to compensate for the times they have had to be laid off.

Even in the last overlong winter, experts claim, the Batelle Institute in Frankfurt was right (in the winter 1965/66) to claim that two-thirds of redundancy caused by wintry conditions could have been avoided if all opportunities for carrying on work in the inclement weather had been utilised.

Thus this country's domestic economy could have been spared a third of the expenses as a result of lost working time.

The Federal Republic has still not made the breakthrough to all-weather, all-winter building methods. Still building sites here become dead at the onset of wintry conditions and the whole trade is virtually in hibernation.

Trade unions, industrial unions and State labour authorities have been working for decades to try to stem the tide of ost working hours in the winter.

Sufficient measures, in terms of tarpaulins, coverings and hot-air blower systems have long since been devised by industry.

With the introduction of the Inclement Weather Remuneration Regulations in 1959 it was thought that the decisive step forward had been taken.

Up until that time building contractors laid off workers at the onset of inclement conditions and signed them on again when building recommenced in the spring.

The number of out-of-work builders' labourers grew to the half-million level in some winters. At the end of January 1958 for example it stood at 667,000.

But for the past eleven years there has been special legislation for these workers. They remain on the firm's payroll all winter long and instead of receiving dole money they are paid so-called Inclement Weather remuneration, for when they are unable to work because of bad conditions.

So labourers still receive compensation for being out of a job, but they are available for their bosses to call on at short notice in case there is a spell of bright weather.

If builders' labourers (1,500,000 of them) now as ever pay ten cent towards redundancy insurance (about 2,500 million Marks), but – as in the winter 1969/70 – take three fifths of the cash from the Nuremberg institute's coffers, this is not a result of inclement weather remuneration.

Dole would work out at a similarly high figure. Certainly men in the building trade who lose work because of bad weather receive a supplement of 28 Pfennings on normal dole for every hour lost.

This supplement is however only designed to meet higher costs. Those who start out for work in the morning ready to make an honest living often have to turn round and go home again because there is nothing to do. Inclement Weather remuneration was not however the product of a brainwave for as long as building contractors are not moved by it to find suitable methods of keeping work going through the days of bad weather.

Building contractors should be assisted through the winter shut-down with the aid of so-called productive winter building promotional methods.

But the men at the Bonn Ministry are not exactly overjoyed with their latest brainchild. The ruling in the new work promotion legislation of 1 July 1969 grants building firms subsidies for every working hour completed during the months of January and February ranging from sixty pfennigs to 2.70 Marks, according to the nature of the building project in hand.

One condition is, however, that the firm in question should have taken the necessary protective measures to combat the winter.

Building contractors, however, consider this new legisation to be double edged. If during these two winter months they are forced to postpone work, despite having made investments in the hope of carrying on work despite inclement weather, they do not receive a farthing of subsidy.

Building promotion measures for building contractors and claims for inclement weather remuneration on the part of builders' labourers are exclusive of each other.

The reason for this ruling is that the financial means for aiding building contractors during the winter months come like inclement weather remuneration from the coffers of Nuremberg's redundancy insurance organisation. In Nuremberg the idea of subsidising winter building schemes was supposed not to load a new burden on the back of the organisation but to reduce the burden of expenditure on inclement weather payments.

The idea of subsidising industrialists from a fund to which employees' redundancy contributions are paid has been criticised by some trade unionists.

One worker in Hamburg said that he could see that in the end this system would benefit builders' labourers since

This huge plastic tent over a building site in Hamburg offers adequate protection against inclement weather (Photo: dpa)

they would remain employed all the year round if winter building measures were successful.

Using this as justification, however, it would be possible to come out in favour of breaking open the Nuremberg piggy banks to provide subsidies for industries set up close to the demarcation line with the German Democratic Republic or for industrialists going through a crisis period.

In the trade union camps, however, there is not as yet any grounds for displeasure since it seems likely that building contractors themselves scorn measures for promoting winter building schemes.

At the moment the institution in Nuremberg has not prepared a résumé but employment offices in the Federal states are already broadcasting disappointing results. The employment office in Kiel for instance, which is responsible for Schleswig-Holstein and Hamburg, has to deal with remuneration demands about the million Mark level.

It is not only the danger of losing investment premiums despite increased expenditure to protect building sites during winter months that is making building contractors shy away. What is decisive in their decision to hold back is that they fear they will not be able to cover expenditure.

The trade publication *baupraxis* comes out against measures to enable winter building programmes saying that this would give an added impulse to builders' labourers to quit their jobs for something else since they prefer a winter break to continued work throughout the harsh season.

At this Ernst Federwisch, head of the Nordmark district of IG Bau, Stein, Erde (the building trade union) has protested at this statement saying: "Our comrades are fed up to the back teeth after three weeks of lolling around the house dragging coal buckets from the cellar for the wife."

The trade unions have another scapegoat for the mediocre success of winter building promotional schemes. Head of IG Bau, Stein, Erde, Rudolf Sperner, leader of half a million organised building workers thundered recently at a conference of delegates of his trade union: "The conditions of application for the new legislation were only made known in November which was too late for builders to make the necessary adjustments to their schedules."

Karl Zimmermann administrative director at the Kiel employment office said: "Our insurance section in Nuremberg held sessions week in week out all day and all night in order to prepare the individual regulations to schedule."

There is unity on who is the main culprit for the failure of winter building schemes. It is the public contractor who Rudolf Sperner says, "is still influenced far more by considerations of short term fiscal expediencies rather than economic rationality."

Heinz Flieger, administrative head of the chief industrial union of the Federal Republic building trade added: "Only sixty per cent of the means available was released on account of nonsensical bars to budgeting. For this reason we were unable to achieve as much as we should have by the start of the winter."

The ideal solution according to Flieger would be for the central government, Federal states and local administrations to make known their building programme so that the major part of outdoor works could be completed before the onset of winter and then builders could concentrate on completing interiors until the spring came.

Present practice is different: once a building is started it is completed before another project starts so that it can start earning money. A few finished projects are preferable to a series of half-completed buildings.

There seems little hope of all these problems being resolved before next winter and so money will continue to be wasted as builders' labourers spend the bad weather months dragging coal scuttles from the cellar for the wife.

Heinz Hebinger

(DIE ZEIT, 17 April 1970)

Building costs expected to increase again in 1970

Even the most cautious predictions have to allow for the fact that on average prices for building in 1970 will rise by at least twelve per cent.

This gloomy forecast appears in the latest of the Federal Republic Institute For Economic Research (DIW) weekly reports.

In the last quarter of 1969 prices rose by 9.5 per cent on the previous year's figure for the same three months.

According to information so far available it must be reckoned that the price level in the building trade rose this February by around five per cent on February 1969.

Even if there were no further price increase on this figure for the rest of the year, the trend so far in 1970 would ensure that there would be an overall average price rise for the whole of 1970 of nine per cent.

But already wage increases of ten per cent have been agreed for May this year, so that all in all we can expect a total price rise of about twelve per cent for the year in the building trade as has already been said.

This development will cause many building contractors to show caution in their programme for the rest of this year.

According to the DIW the construction of houses will be hard hit, particularly since in this branch of the industry there is the added factor of the recent interest rate increases, which have had a marked effect.

On the other hand many building contractors will accept the higher prices in order to beat further development in this direction in the future.

All in all the Institute reckons that there will be a four per cent decline in the volume of building.

As far as the building of new office blocks is concerned it is reckoned that there will be an actual increase of seven per cent. In the construction of new public buildings there should be a nominal increase of twelve per cent, which in actual terms means no change in comparison with last year.

Both relative figures apply also for the overall amount of new building work. The nominal volume will increase by twelve per cent, but in reality it will not be more than in 1969.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 22 April 1970)

■ AVIATION

Aircraft at Hanover Fair

SOVIET UNION REPRESENTED FOR THE FIRST TIME

Langenhagen, Hanover, in the aviation world generally rated the last stop before Berlin, is also the venue of one of the major air and space shows, held every other year at the same time as the Hanover Fair. This year's Federal Republic air show was held from 23 April to 3 May. The exhibition catalogue, which has steadily increased in size over the years, this time listed more than 450 exhibitors from fourteen countries. 140 aircraft of all kinds were ready and waiting for visitors from all over the world. The show is sponsored by the Federal Republic Aerospace Industry Association and was opened by Professor Schiller, Minister of Economic Affairs.



As far as this country is concerned the Hanover air show was marked by the mergers that have at long last come about. Major manufacturers in the industry of the third and fourth dimensions have to a large extent exchanged their *independence for closer cooperation*.

The trend is the same in other aircraft-manufacturing countries, including the United States. The research and development costs of the latest in aviation and space hardware go beyond the resources of individual manufacturers.

What is more, Bonn had made financial participation in a number of particularly promising projects dependent on definite mergers within the aerospace industry.

The major manufacturers are now MBB and VFW, standing for Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm and Vereinigte Flugtechnische Werke (Flocke-Wulf, Heinkel and Weser Flugzeugbau) respectively.

VFW have joined forces with Fokker of Holland, so the second of the two giants ought really to be entitled VFW-Fokker.

Fokker's contribution to the joint enterprise was, incidentally, two of the bestknown short-haul aircraft: the twin-engined turboprop F 27 Friendship and the twin-jet F 28 Fellowship.

Dornier is the last historic name in the German aircraft world to retain its independence. The old firm have made a name for themselves in the short and vertical take-off (STOL and VTOL) field, particularly with the Do 31, the largest vertical take-off aircraft of its kind, and the Dornier Skyservant, a small transport aircraft that is the firm's latest best-seller.

European links also play a part in ensuring not only national but also supranational cooperation in aviation technology.

Deutsche Airbus, SNI Aérospatiale of France and Hawker-Siddeley of Britain are cooperating on the European A 300 B airbus, Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm and VFW-Fokker representing this country.

Panavia Aircraft, of Munich is the coordination centre for the multi-role combat aircraft jointly to be developed by Italy, Britain and this country.

The MRCA project involves the development of a highly sophisticated swing-wing fighter, the variable geometry mechanism being contributed by this country.

Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm and SNI Aérospatiale have also joined forces in a bid for the Eurotrainer contract, a jet trainer aircraft commissioned by the governments of this country and France.

Airframe manufacturers are not alone in joining forces. Engine manufacturers are also combining their efforts. Daimler-Benz and the aircraft engine division of *MAN have jointly set up Motoren- und* Turbinen-Union of Munich.

The Langenhagen exhibits, comprising the real thing, smaller models and mock-ups, convey a graphic impression of these many links. The highlights included the Do 31 VTOL jet transport aircraft and the VAK 191 B, developed by VFW-Fokker in conjunction with the aviation division of Fiat.

The SG 1262 hoverframe, a flying testbed for the VAK vertical take-off fighter, was one of the sensations of the 1968 Hanover air show.

The Defence Ministry has earmarked the VAK 191 B, which is to start flight trials at the end of the year, for certain component tests for the MRCA, which is intended to have STOL (if not VTOL) characteristics.

The VFW 614 will be this country's first jet airliner and VFW-Fokker are also working on the VC 400, a sixty-seater vertical take-off swing-winger. The manufacturers have a number of further developments of the VC 400 in reserve, vertical take-off transport aircraft for the eighties.

Similar aircraft are also an important factor in the calculations of other domestic manufacturers. Dornier are working on the Do 231 C project and Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm have the Bo 140 and HFB 600 projects in hand.



A model of the European airbus at the Hanover Fair

One of the most successful VTOL helicopters so far is the MBB Bo 105, which is technologically interesting by virtue of its so-called star rotor and the use of new materials such as synthetics and titanium for crucial components.

Maximum demands in both engineering and materials must also be met by space equipment. The aerospace industry in this country has proved its worth with the successfully launched Heos I, Azur and Dial satellites.

Models of these and other spacecraft were among the main attractions at Hanover.

The Hanover air show is last but not least the shop-window of general aviation, the varied range of superb jet and ultra-lightweight cruiser and sports aircraft.

The HFB 320 Hansa is this country's first and so far only business jet and the Monsun and synthetic four-seater 205 are two genuine, multi-p[urpose] sports models.

This country's motorised glid[ers are] also leaders in their field. Pütz[er and] Scheibe, the main manufacturers, recently merged. In recent years th[ey] have sold more than 320 aircraft [all over] the world.

America, Britain, France, Czecho[slova]kia, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Japan and so on, together with high-performance military and civil[ian air]craft, STOLs, VTOLs, sports and bu[siness] models, helicopters, spacecraft, c[…] and no end of accessories, have lo[ng been] part and parcel of the Hanover a[ir show].

The Soviet Union is one of the [new]comers. Soviet exhibits included the jet mini-airliner Yak 40 and the [...] helicopter. Hanover is well on its w[ay to] becoming a Paris air show on a s[…] scale.

Peter R…

(Industriekurier, 23 Apri[l 1970])

Lack of finance hampers development of the world's first jet-boosted VTOL plane

The most spectacular aircraft this country's aircraft industry has to offer, Do 31, the first jet-boosted vertical take off transport plane in the world is to go into mothballs.

Yet *Dornier have every reason to be* proud. Officials of the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration concluded a comprehensive range of trials on 17 April.

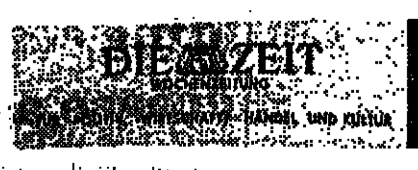
Their intention was to test the possibilities and conditions under which vertical take-off aircraft might be used in city centre to city centre traffic.

The Dornier 31 was selected for trials because it is the first transport aircraft in the world (with a load capacity of twenty tons) to have *reached the stage where it* can be subjected to flight tests for the purpose in question.

The Americans' comments were laconic in the extreme. Having come to Munich as Nasa officials they took care not to divulge the contents of their report. But their broad smiles were taken to indicate satisfaction.

Dornier engineers put four years' hard work into the project before unveiling the Do 31 in 1963. An expensive business, it was aided *by government grants.*

Military men had realised that in the event of war major airstrips would not last long. In all more than 200 million Marks of the taxpayers' money went into the development of the Do 31.



Dornier were not the first VTOL designers, incidentally. Entwicklungsring Süd, a consortium that is no longer in existence, earned this country its first honours with the VJ 101 project.

But Dornier engineers received, at the beginning of April, encouraging news from Bonn concerning further development of the plane.

A commission had spent five months investigating Federal Republic vertical take-off projects with civilian requirements for the eighties in mind.

The Thalau Commission, named after Professor Karl Thalau, aviation adviser to the Ministry of Economic Affairs, was set up by the Federal government to determine which of the VTOL projects was deserving of further financial support.

All firms engaging in VTOL work were called in April 1969 to submit details of their projects by October last.

A vertical take-off boom ensued. Manufacturers willingly supplied the general public with photos of their projects as though the construction of these aircraft of the future were merely a matter of cash.

A grand total of five projec[ts were] submitted to the commission, tw[o] by MBB and VFW, one jet-boost[ed, the] other swing-wing turbo-prop. Dor[nier re]mained loyal to their original p[lans] *and submitted plans for the Do* [231, a] further development of the Do 31.

All applicants have since receiv[ed the] Thalau Commission's report, compil[ed by] sixteen specialists. They had unt[il …] April to answer the report.

The entire procedure is confid[ential.] One firm does not know how th[e other] projects were rated.

Even so, they all seem hopeful. Dor[nier] point out that a Lufthansa survey [found] *the Do 231 design to be suitable for* aviation requirements.

VFW maintain that the commiss[ion's] ruling is only temporary and are q[uite] quiet convinced that together with Do 231 their VFW VC 180 is a [...] favourite for government support.

The decision in favour of one mod[el or] the other is not, of course, mere[ly a] matter of optimum aviation techn[ology.] It is equally dependent on the Fe[deral] government's assessment of air tra[nsport] requirements.

The Ministry of Transport has y[et to] comment, however, on which system [it] prefers. Maybe none of the plans will [ever] leave the drawing-board.

(DIE ZEIT, 24 April 1[970])

■ TECHNOLOGY

Heligoland's drinking-water supply to be drawn from sea water

Heligoland is to be the first community in Europe to drink nothing but sea water – desalinated by plant to be built at a cost of 3.5 million Marks.

Heligoland used to ship drinking-water from the mainland at a cost of twelve to fifteen Marks a cubic metre. The new plant will provide desalinated water at a cost of two Marks a cubic metre, which is a good deal more expensive than drawing water from the water table on the mainland but is far more economic than the present practice.

The contracts were signed on 24 April between Heligoland council and MAN, the mechanical engineers. Planning is to be carried out by GMT of Essen, a joint subsidiary of MAN and Gutehoffnungshütte.



The plant is based on vacuum distillation. Sea water is heated to steam and *condensed 24 times, each time losing* some of its salt content.

In a vacuum water evaporates at a low temperature. Steam enters the plant at 125 degrees centigrade and two atmospheres pressure. In the final stage it evaporates at a temperature of a mere three degrees.

Steam is to be supplied by a specially installed turbine at the local power station. As Heligoland in any case needs to boost the capacity of its power station *the installation of an additional turbine is* doubly necessary and a particularly economic proposition.

The steam is first used to generate electric power in the turbine and then piped to the desalination plant, which will be able to produce 800 cubic metres of water a day and is expected to take fourteen months to construct.

The resulting water is distilled pure. It tastes bad and is not particularly healthy either. To make it drinkable it will be *mixed with island water, which is not* drinkable either, for that matter, but is used by the islanders for washing and so on.

The island water is rainwater collected in cisterns that is filtered through sand. This filtrated water contains approximately 1,000 to 2,000 milligrammes of salt per litre.

Mixed with five to ten times the amount of desalinated water the water constains 200 to 250 milligrammes of salt per litre, which is what good, tasty, normal water contains.

Harald Steinert

(DIE WELT, 27 April 1970)

Autobahn safety measures

In future all new sections of autobahn are to be fitted with sprung crash barriers. The runners of present crash barriers are bolted directly to the uprights.

In the new design the two are separated by a two foot six crosspiece that functions as a shock absorber instead of as a catapult as at present.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 22 April 1970)

Reflecting car number-plates to reduce accidents

Reflecting car number-plates can cut down the number of night-time collisions by three quarters, ADAC, the Federal Republic motoring organisation, has concluded.

A twelve-month test involving 1,000 private cars fitted with special luminous number-plates in Idar-Oberstein draws the ADAC to this view.

During the year in question 81 collisions in which one car drove into the rear of the car in front were registered in the area, which has a total of 7,000 cars. The accident rate is thus twelve per thousand vehicles. Only three of the test vehicles were involved in pile-ups.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 22 April 1970)

Funds for all-weather flight research

Aviation experts at Brunswick University of Technology are delighted by the prospect of a relatively small sum of money – 330,000 Marks.

They propose to use it to engage in basic research into an important aspect of aviation: all-weather flight by civilian transport planes in the vicinity of airports.

"Our aim," says Professor Karl-Heinz Doetsch, "is to make airports accessible to incoming air traffic in any weather."

The grant is due to a decision by the Arts, Science and Research Council. "The special research sectors sponsored by this body," Brunswick comments, "include a number of scientific complexes at our university."

The first grant is earmarked for aviation research and will provide the university with the opportunity of considerably intensifying its work in this field, including coordination of several disciplines such as aviation mechanics, navigation, air traffic control and communications technology, to name but a few.

Professor Doetsch, who is also director of thy flight control section of the Federal Republic Aerospace Research Association, notes that "The grant we are to receive will further improve the position of aviation technology, which has always been one of the strong points of Brunswick University of Technology."

(Hannoversche Presse, 24 April 1970)

■ MODERN LIVING

Old style gambling is a thing of the past



It is a white house in *Jugendstil* with many nooks, many crannies and many towers. The gaming table at the house in Bad Neuenahr is scarely different from any other in this country or anywhere in Europe.

It is not quite so splendiferous as that in Monte Carlo, but nevertheless it is still *alt-repräsentativ*.

The way to the gaming-rooms on the first storey is over magnificent deep-pile carpets that swallow up the sound and beneath very heavy chandeliers.

Suddenly the splendour turns to sobriety. It is none the less tasteful and aesthetic, but suddenly the impression is of being in an old apothecary's emporium.

Behind a counter there is a vast wall filled with little boxes labelled from A to Z. They might have contained medicaments. But behind the counter there stand not white-coated apothecaries, but serious-looking men in dark suits.

And the little boxes do not contain tincture of iodine or sleeping draughts, but portentous file cards. In recent years 500,000 of these cards have been collected there and many old ones are lying packaged in the cellar.

A difficult task has begun for the head of reception Herr Rösler. It is his job to keep the *Volk* free from debt.

He looks the newcomer up and down from tip to toe, checks credentials, enquires about personal finances and files a new card. A net income of 1,500 Marks is just a vague guideline for this Cerberus, whether he can take the responsibility of giving admittance to the newcomer. Admittance can be gained to the gaming-rooms by guests aged twenty five and over. Younger guests will be admitted if accompanied by parents, an older husband or older friends. Admission costs are four Marks.

Receptionist Rösler performs his duties with efficiency and elan. He has gained his knowledge of human nature in the hotel business. Gentlemen who are not keen to give lady friends or even wives an insight into what they earn are needless to say treated with courtesy and tact and not forced to come clean.

To sail round the rocky cliffs of Herr Rösler is not too difficult but guests are warned to bring their pay slip or an income tax declaration next time. The first time they will be let through.

From the gaming-rooms there comes a melange of voices now raised now hushed and sometimes striking and strident. The reason for this is that it is Wednesday afternoon — housewives' afternoon. Special coach trips are arranged to bring women to the casino from surrounding localities.

At the cashier's desk money is exchanged for chips. But gamers are allowed to stake coins and notes at the gaming-tables. This afternoon the rooms are astonishingly full. Fourteen of the 25 roulette wheels are spinning. There is particular interest in a table surrounded by gamblers exclusively of the fairer sex.

There are three croupiers — the chief croupier, the croupier at the wheel who sends the ball of fortune spinning and a croupier at the head of the table. They can be certain of sympathy from the men looking on. Scarcely a throw passes without the women having to be silenced because they are calling for the pay-out too hastily.

Not only charming ladies are filled with nervousness. Two gentlemen chain smoke cigarettes only a quarter of the way down before stubbing them out. Fortunately during the game of fortune the consumption of alcohol is forbidden. Only at baccarat are gamers allowed to "have one".

One comic touch is provided by the various attempts different people make to bridle Dame Fortune. Some note down what they think are the series of numbers that come up. Others screw up their eyes and put their fingers in their ears when the ball is rolling.

One thing they have in common. Several of them wait until the croupier at the wheel has called 'Rien ne va plus' then attempt to throw in further chips which does not make the croupier's job any easier.

The gaming-house at Neuenahr trains its own croupiers. It is only in Austria that there are special croupier schools. In the basic courses many applicants quit voluntarily. The demands made on them are too great.

A croupier must have a keen sense of hearing, nimble fingers and good nerves, but above all he must be skilled in his dealings with his fellow men and be exceptionally quick witted.

For the layman it is difficult to imagine how the croupier manages to cope with the great blur of activity going on around him at a full table. The greatest advantage of this very demanding profes- [illegible] Sundays is the money that can be earned.

Spielleiter Kalthoener said: "Rumours that we earn ten thousand Marks a month are just a lot of nonsense!"

But the fact that croupiers can count on a good wage packet is proved amply by the fact that their profession never lacks new recruits. Apart from their basic pay the croupiers earn a good income from tips.

In 1966 a number of croupiers in Bad Neuenahr struck, causing a sensation in the history of casinos. Their complaint was that gratuities belonged to the croupier alone. They demanded that these should not contribute towards overheads such as the cost of employing cleaning women.

The casino disagreed and twenty croupiers were banned at short notice. For the week the casino had to close.

However varied the habits of roulette players and however different the clothes they wear the way they are portrayed in films with dinner jackets and evening dress is a rare sight.



Croupiers need to be men with good nerves, nimble fingers and courteous man... They need to have plenty of tact as well so as to run their tables in a quiet, ef... manner. (Photo: Spielbank Bad Neu...)

Even the tie is no longer an absolute necessity as long as a fashionable roll [illegible] Women are allowed to wear trouser suits and only beachwear is frowned upon. Dress today corresponds to the people who try their fortune today, people from all strata of society. The surroundings of the gaming-rooms with their bright colours and expensive decorations are almost too extravagant a framework for what has become a popular indoor sport.

In Bad Neuenahr there are 129 croupiers on the books and they work in two shifts. At weekends when many beginners try their luck and several spectators come along to take advantage of the fact that there is no compulsion to stake money, thirty assistant croupiers work there, many of whom are students earning good money.

Dieter Kalthoener is a regular employee. He was a salesman and heard by chance that there was a possibility of becoming a croupier. He applied and was given six weeks basic training.

The casino in Bad Neuenahr is a private limited company owned by a dozen people.

Where does all the money go?

They receive only twenty per cent of annual income. Fifty per cent goes to the Rhineland Palatinate government, five per cent to neighbouring states, five per cent to the central government in Bonn, ten per cent to the local government in Bad Neuenahr, eight per cent to the Bad Neuenahr spa authorities for allowing the casino to use the old spa buildings and a further two per cent to other local committees.

Karl Alexander von der Grüben, manager of the casino and spa of Bad Neuenahr/Ahrweiler is not allowed to divulge the casino's annual profits.

Rhineland Palatinate's budget reveals one overriding fact: in the end the gamblers are the losers.

The amazingly high income of the casino comes less from the immensity of the stakes and losses of the individual gamblers than from their numbers. Around 750 visitors gamble at Bad Neuenahr every day.

Economic depressions have left the casino's income virtually unscathed. The crunch will come this summer during the World Cup.

Gamblers who ruin themselves hoping to break the bank are a thing of the past. If occasionally someone does place an astronomical sum in the lap of the gods it is significantly usually a visitor from abroad. road.

There is a maximum stake of 6,000 Marks on an even chance, for example red or black. The minimum stake is two Marks or on some tables five Marks.

The Dostoevsky gambler who committed suicide is a person who only existed in the days of the past.

(Handelsblatt, 16 April 1970)

Identity numbe...

RHEIN NECKAR-ZEITUNG

Everybody in the Federal Repu... to be given a personal number, ... digits long, before 1973, accordi... Minister of the Interior Hans D... Genscher.

Minister Genscher was answering ... tions from members of the SPD and ... This new system will be covere... general legislation on census sy... which is designed mainly to mak... inception of electronic data proce... simpler.

Citizens of the Federal Republic w... protected at law from falsificatio... their personal identity numbers.

Genscher has said that measures wi... taken to ensure that "protection of t... individual will in no way be reduced ... even endangered."

As far as is known in Bonn gove... personal identity numbers such as this ar... already in use in the Scandinavian ... tions, Norway, Sweden, Denmark ... Finland as well as in Israel.

Every citizen will be able to obt... copies of all the data filed about him ... her. Transfer of data from census cent... will, however, be limited to such inform... tion as is necessary for fulfilling ... official duty or a legal matter involvi... the subject in question.

The government sees no damage ... human dignity in the use of identi... numbers for administrative purposes.

These numbers are in no way desig... to replace the use of personal names ... dealings between the State and th... citizen. People in the Federal Repub... will not be entirely reduced to ba... statistics.

(RHEIN-NECKAR-ZEITUNG, 9 April 197...)

■ SPORT

Wilhelm Kregel elected Sports League president

Visitors are requested to take a seat on the patterned sofa but Dr Kregel does not object to anyone preferring to sit in a leather-upholstered chair rather than face a life-sized portrait of Duke Georg Wilhelm of Brunswick. The preference comes as no surprise to him and the sofa remains unoccupied.

When Dr Wilhelm Kregel, chief judge of Celle Assizes, sits at his writing-desk this splendid example of the art of portraiture — a museumpiece on loan — hangs to his right by the door. To his left, at the same angle, is his study window with a view of the castle.

His work covers an area extending from Cuxhaven in the north to just short of Kassel in the south — and seven quarter sessions. In an atmosphere of regional and historic perspectives Munich and the Oberwiesenfeld Olympic tower suddenly seem a long, long way away.

What are his motives?

"None really," he says. For three months he was one of two candidates for the most important honorary post the sporting world has to offer, the presidency of the Federal Republic Sports League (DSB).

He was asked to stand by the member sports associations representing individual disciplines. "Surprisingly enough," Dr Kregel comments. From March, when a dress rehearsal for the election was held, he was the favourite and Wilhelm Kregel is now the head of an organisation numbering nearly ten million members.

He will hear nothing of suspicions that he is merely on the make careerwise, as it were. Sports official Kregel's reasoning is logical enough. He is president of the Federal Republic Gymnastics Association, which takes up more than enough of his spare time, and his judical career is impressive as it is. What is more, "I have plenty of legal work in hand — a commentary on Reich and Federal legal counsellors, for instance."

Until 1956 Dr Kregel was a judge at the Federal Supreme Court. Then he became chief judge at Verden, moving to Celle in 1966. He was born in Verden in 1909, spent his childhood in Lorraine and has lived in Lower Saxony since 1920.

As a gymnast he was a member of Marburg ATV, a student corps that neither wears colours nor duels, and later tried his hand as an athlete, running in team events over 3,000 metres. Ten minutes, he recalls, and the weakest man in the team was always the deciding factor.

He then served in the 19th Lower Saxon Panzer division, was wounded several times and is now an established legal man.

So much for his professional career. In 1957 he took over as president of the Federal Republic Gymnastics Association and chairman of the general committee of the association. He sounds as though he has spent much of his time as a committee man and he is indeed little-known among the ten million members of the DSB even though he was already a deputy president and responsible for relations with the Bundeswehr and the Churches.

He is a member of the National Olympics Committee, the International Gymnastics Federation the presidium of the Federal Republic Olympics Association, the organising committee for the 1972 Olympics and chairman of the Gymnastics Association.

As DSB president Dr Kregel will stand down from all these posts. He worked together with the opposing candidate, Willi Weyer, Interior Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, in the reform and statute commission of the Sports League, the proposals of which were voted on at the election AGM.

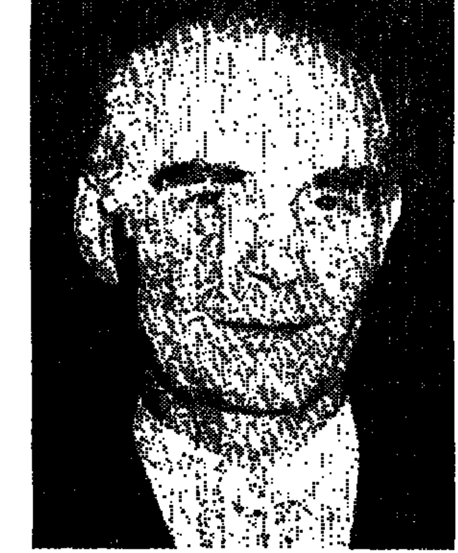
Neither man's policies were defined in detail. "There were," says Kregel, "only two points on which we differed. One was what might be called the DSB's sole right of representation in dealings with Ministries." Kregel would prefer to leave certain matters in the hands of the individual associations.

"The other was the matter of allocation of funds. I am in favour of retaining the existing system." This would mean that the Federal Interior Ministry's sport funds would continue to be paid directly to the individual associations.

No matter how observers may try to paper over the fact with talk of reform plans and forecasts for the future, the second point — allocation of funds — was and is the crucial issue. Is the DSB or is it not to have a say in investments?

"The Gymnastics Association is a fairly small association," Kregel notes, only to point out, when it is suggested that he may have bitten off more than he can chew, that "I was far less prepared for what lay in store for me when I took over the Gymnastics Association."

So far he has managed to keep part of Sunday free for leisure activities. He goes riding — owns his own horse. His wife, who used to be a gymnast herself and now also rides, shares his love of sport. As a matter of principle he travels to meetings by train, though he has been known to fly.



(Photo: Schirner)

Does he take criticism? "Provided it is well-founded." What annoys him is a generalisation such as "mediocre leadership of sports associations" and "moderate centralism" and "traditionalist." All are phrases that were bandied about freely prior to the election.

He is convinced that he will have no difficulty in reconciling professional and sporting commitments. He is not a member of a political party. "Not that I am an unpolitical man. Far from it."

He mentions an interview in which it was maintained that not even his closest acquaintances know where he stands, going on to add that "I am, of course, basically on the conservative side. After all, I am a legal man."

(DIE WELT, 25 April 1970)

The tasks facing the new man

WILLI DAUME WILL BE THE YARDSTICK

It was a historic moment in the history of sport when on 25 April in Mainz the Daume era came to an end and a new chapter in the history of the Federal Republic Sports League began.

Willi Daume, the man who for two decades ran the largest sporting organisation in the country — with a present membership of nearly ten million — and all in all ran it well, has been succeeded by Dr Wilhelm Kregel.

Kregel, a chief justice from Celle who 48 hours before election was still best known for his reserve, won by a margin of sixty votes over his rival, North Rhine-Westphalian Interior Minister Willi Weyer.

As expected by the pundits the sports associations in individual disciplines had outvoted the regional sports associations. The two individual organisations with the largest membership, the Football Association and the Gymnastics Association, had got what they wanted.

It is slightly ironic that the new administrative machinery of the Sports League is to a large extent the work of the loser, Willi Weyer, who was head of the statute commission that drew up the new measures.

The new look is also in accord with the ideas of Willi Daume, who in his last, great speech characterised them as guidelines for the seventies.

It remains to be seen whether Dr Kregel, an impartial legal man and experienced administrator, will prove able to cope with the new administrative machine and the division into departments. He will certainly delegate more than his predecessor ever did.

Kregel's great advantage is that the AGM approved the new statutes of the Sports League without much ado the day before he was elected. He will now have full-time assistants in most of the eleven sections into which work has been divided and a member of the executive will be responsible for each section too.

Willi Daume was a man of striking ideas (the Golden Plan, the Second Way, the Charter of German Sport) whose task it was to make sport socially respectable again after the uses to which it had been put during the Nazi era.

Dr Kregel will need to be a teamworker and a man who knows how to manage affairs. As a man of conciliation during his six years at the helm of the Gymnastics Association and a man who is well versed in his subject matter from school sport to competitive sport he should prove able to make good use of his staff.

At the end of this year the Frankfurt headquarters will be ready and Dr Kregel will have a tailormade control panel for the many tasks that face the organisation. It is fortunate for both the man and the organisation that loser Willi Weyer, who was the first to congratulate him on election, has promised to give every assistance, as has Willi Daume.

Daume, honorary President of the Sports League, will now be able to devote himself entirely to preparations for the 1972 Olympics in Munich.

Yet his election cannot but be regarded as a transitional solution, particularly as it will take some time for the various committees to function properly. In four years' time Dr Kregel will be 65 and delegates will have to elect his successor.

As the Olympics draw near the individual associations will have to part company with their trauma of being allocated too little of the sport estimates. This year the Federal government is investing 17.4 million Marks in sport.

The road to success in school and club sport is, they will have to realise, paved with cooperation, close cooperation between themselves and the regional sports associations, a point the late Carl Diem was quick to see.

Dr Kregel's new team — he is the only member of the old executive still to serve — will need time to work and accomplish anything along the lines of the new statutes.

The individual association wanted not only a greater say in the allocation of funds but also in the deliberations of the executive. By 1972 they will have to prove that the Mainz AGM was the continuation of Willi Daume's sports policies with better and more effective means for both large and small member associations.

It will then be time to forget the poor parliamentary style the representatives of the individual associations showed before the presidential elections in voting en bloc against debate on the qualities of the two candidates, so making a mockery of Willi Daume's exhortation that they govern by discussion.

Willi Weyer, a politician by profession, was obviously too strong a personality in the eyes of the individual associations, the more powerful of which evidently propose to lobby on their own behalf in Bonn.

Maybe Dr Kregel will surprise them all. Forthcoming Sports League presidents will certainly be measured by Daume standards. *Ludwig Koppenwallner*

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 April 1970)

Aden	SA $ 0.05	Colombia	col. $ 1.—	Formosa	NT $ 5.—	Indonesia	Rp. 15.—	Malawi	11 d	Paraguay	G. 15.—	Sudan	PT 5.—
Afghanistan	Af 10.—	Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—	France	FF 0.60	Iran	RI 10.—	Malaysia	M. $ 0.40	Peru	S. 3.50	Syria	£ S 0.60
Algeria	DA 0.60	Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—	Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Iraq	50 fils	Mali	FM 60.—	Philippines	P. phil 0.60	Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Angola	Esc. 1.—	Costa Rica	C 0.85	Gambia	11 d	Ireland	11 d	Mexico	$ 1.50	Poland	Zl. 0.50	Thailand	B 3.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—	Cuba	P 0.13	Germany	DM 1.—	Israel	I £ 0.40	Morocco	DM —.65	Portugal	Esc. 1.—	Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Australia	10 c.	Cyprus	11 d	Ghana	cedi 0.12	Italy	Lir. 80	Mozambique	Esc. 1.—	Rhodesia	11 d	Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Austria	S 3.—	Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50	Great Britain	11 d	Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Nepal	Mohur 1.—	Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—	Turkey	T £ 1.25
Belgium	bfr 6.—	Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Greece	Dr 4.—	Jamaica	11 d	Netherlands	Hfl 0.50	Rumania	Leu 0.50	Tunisia	65 M
Bolivia	$ b 1.50	Denmark	dkr 0.90	Guatemala	Q 0.15	Japan	Yen 50	Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25	Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60	Uganda	EAs 0.25
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35	Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15	Guayana	BWI $ 0.20	Jordan	50 fils	New Zealand	9 c.	Sweden	skr 0.60	UAR	PT 5.—
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05	Ecuador	S 2.50	Guinea	F.G. 30.—	Kenya	EAs 0.25	Nicaragua	C 0.65	Switzerland	FS 0.50	Uruguay	P 20.—
Burma	K 0.60	El Salvador	C 0.30	Haiti	G 0.65	Kuwait	50 fils	Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—	USA	$ 0.20
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—	Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30	Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20	Laos	Kip 60.—	Nigeria	11 d	Sierra Leone	Le 0.10	USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Cambodia	R 4.40	Fiji	11 d	Honduras	L 0.25	Lebanon	P 40.—	Norway	nkr 0.90	Somalia	Sh So 0.90	Venezuela	B 0.60
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Finland	fmk 0.50	Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70	Liberia	Lib $ 0.15	Pakistan	Rs 0.60	South Africa	Rand 0.10	Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20			Hungary	Ft 1.—	Libya	50 Mills	Panama	B. 0.15	South Korea	Won 35.—	Zambia	11 d
Ceylon	cR —.60			Iceland	Kr 5.—	Luxembourg	lfr 6			S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—		
Chile	Esc. 0.50			India	Rs 0.80	Madagascar	FM 30.—			Spain	Pts 6.—		